

The Centre Reporter.

VOL. LXXVII.

CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1904.

NO. 27.

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 VIII.



Confederates Crossing a Stream.

Note.—This illustrates the manner of crossing a stream common to both Armies.

They also leaned their heads way back and looked from under their blind-folding handkerchiefs, at their twenty executioners, who were standing ready, with shouldered arms, only twenty feet away, waiting for orders. All was now ready. Deliberately and loud came the command. Ready! and twenty gun-locks loudly clicked, as the hammers were drawn. Aim! The guns went up and steadied, in deadly aim. Fire!! and the twenty rifles rang out as one; both left forward with a plunge, on their faces, which became half buried in the Virginia sand, and a deep moan of sympathy was heard among the hardened troops, of many hard fought fields, where "death ran riot," and human gore unnerfed them not. Death was instantaneous, and the tragedy was ended. Here, now, was a gruesome sight. Right by the grave mounds of a score of former victims, were the two open graves; the rough, pine coffins standing beside them, and the hapless victims lying on their faces, just as they had fallen; bodies doubled up, and arms entangled, while ghastly, blood-stained rents in the backs of their tightly drawn white shirts, showed the exit of the deadly hail of lead, while a pool of blood had formed under them. As usual, the troops of the division in attendance, and to which the victims had belonged, were marched close by, in single column, so that every soldier could plainly see it all.

Short work was made of soldiers who came before the military courts during the last year of the war, and executions followed quickly. Slight evidence brought condemnation. Execution by shooting or hanging, for desertion and other crimes, were an almost daily diversion, here or there in the army, but their recital, in this narrative will hereafter be omitted.

Preparations for the spring campaign continued on a grand scale; convalescents and recruits were daily arriving in great numbers.

The weather was beautiful, and the roads were rapidly becoming solid.

We realized that the "Siege of Richmond," which had lasted nearly a year, was soon to have an end. This long siege had passed rapidly, and in a great measure, pleasantly away. We had been thoroughly inured to the most excessive hardships, and we had learned to enjoy, to love, the outdoor life, and the excitement of war. For a year at a time, often longer, we would not get inside of any building. Pleasant diversions were numerous in camp. We played ball; wrestled and romped, and once in a while fought with each other; roamed, and inspected the enemy's works, lines, and moves, as well as our own. Instrumental music and song, were entertaining and exhilarating features of camp life. Brass bands were numerous in the Union Camps, and on a mild, fine evening, they were heard all over the great, tented plain, a grand concert that was extremely enjoyable.

Glee clubs spontaneously developed in all parts of the Army, and fine evenings were few, on which patriotic and home songs were not heard. The stirring war songs were legion, and scores of favorites were memorized, and regularly sung. The leading favorites in the Union Army were "The Star Spangled Banner," "Red White and Blue," "E Pluribus Unum," "Tramp, Tramp, Tramp," "Rally round the Flag," "The Girl I left behind me," "Do they miss me at Home," "Just before the Battle, Mother," "Tenting on the old Camp Ground," "Corporal Schapps," "Home Sweet Home," "When this Cruel War is Over," etc., etc. The same spirit of music also pervaded the Confederate Army, so we had variety. For patriotic Federal music, we turned to our own bands and glee clubs; if

for a change, we wanted Confederate music, we simply turned our attention to the lines in our front, in many places only a few feet away.

Among the favorite songs in the Confederate Army were "Dixie Land," "The Bonnie Blue Flag," "Maryland my Maryland," "Lorena," "Creole of New Orleans," "Stonewall Jackson," "Wearing of the Green," "Mar-

seillaise, etc., etc.

On one occasion, where the lines of the two armies were within a few hundred feet of each other, the Yankees and Johnnies sang, to entertain and taunt each other with the widely different sentiments of their songs; alternating with the Confederates, the Union troops sang, "E Pluribus Unum," "Star Spangled Banner," "Rally Round the Flag," etc.

The Confederates responding with Dixie Land; Maryland my Maryland; Bonnie Blue Flag, etc. Tiring of this rivalry concert, a squad of Union Soldiers sang, loud and clear, that universal Army favorite, "Do they miss me at home," then followed with "Home Sweet Home." This was too much; war and rivalry was forgotten; all were of one mind on this, and the Yanks and Rebs sang together, this soul stirring lyric; after which a better feeling prevailed; supreme quiet settled down for the night, and presumably, the soldiers dreamed of their far away homes.

The 148th P. V. did more singing than any other Regiment in the Division. While on the way to Chancellorsville, just after crossing the Rappahannock River on the swaying pontoon bridge, we moved rapidly forward toward the Chancellorsville Battle field. The boys knew that all were taking desperate chances, and that many were marching to death.

We were in a serious mood; not a word was spoken in the Regiment. It was night; Col. James A. Beaver rode at the head; Co. "A" just back of him at the head of the column. There was not a sound, save only the clang of accoutrements and weapons, and the heavy, dull sound of many tramping feet. The night was beautiful. The Col. turned half way round in the saddle, and asked; boys, can't we have a song? Instantly we started up with the greatest of all our marching songs, "The Girl I left behind me," which was followed by others. For several miles we sang as we marched. In all that Army of one hundred and thirty thousand men, the 148th P. V. was probably the only Regiment that sang as they marched to the battle-field.

LOCALS.

J. Paul Rearick, of Milroy spent a few days in town this week.

Misses Sarah and Cora B. Brungart, on Saturday went to Bellefonte to visit friends.

Miss Amy Potter, of Milesburg, is visiting her aunt, Miss Mary Potter, west of town.

Mrs. Joseph Edmiston, of State College, spent Saturday with her sister, Mrs. Mame Miller.

Will D. Shoop, who for the past few years has been employed in a baking establishment at Reedsville, came home on Saturday to remain for some time.

On Saturday when George Bradford, of the Old Fort, was hauling a large load of hay into the barn the rear end of the wagon broke through the plank part of the barn bridge. No serious damage was done.

Dr. Lincoln Hully, of Bucknell University, has been elected president of the John B. Stetson University, of De Land, Florida. Dr. Hully is well known to the Centre county teachers as he was an instructor at the county institute a few years ago.

A wooden post-card, carried for a one-cent stamp, is the latest novelty that comes from the St. Louis exposition. It represents a clever idea of Farran Zerbe, formerly of Centre Hall, who has had the novelty copyrighted. The card has in type-printer face simile, a message from the World's Fair, in which the names of many kinds of wood are used. It is a neat souvenir and will doubtless be used extensively by visitors to the exposition.

DEATHS.

J. H. REIFSNYDER.

John H. Reifsnnyder, one of the best known men in Centre county, died at his home in Millheim on Friday, July 1st, as the result of sickness brought on while attending to business in Lock Haven. He was taken to the hospital there, and brought to his home a few days before his death. For the past fifteen years Mr. Reifsnnyder had been in poor health and only his indomitable will helped to keep him up the past few years.

Mr. Reifsnnyder was born in Lebanon county and came to this county with his father when a mere boy. Starting in life as a poor boy, he worked at whatever he could find to do, and at the time of his death was regarded as an influential and wealthy citizen.

When a young man he became a surveyor and followed surveying for many years, serving as county surveyor for seven years. He served the people of the community as tax collector and constable for several years and for twenty-seven consecutive years was justice of the peace. Always a Democrat he took an active interest in the affairs of his party. Although not a member of the bar, Mr. Reifsnnyder was prominent in legal matters and was noted for his sound judgment.

Mr. Reifsnnyder was twice married his first wife being Mary L. Kremer, who died in 1892. By this marriage two children were born who survive the father and mother, they are Jennie K. and Joseph W., both living in Millheim. He is also survived by one brother, William, of Millheim, and two sisters, Mrs. Armbruster, Farmers Mills, and Mrs. Evans, of Williamsport. In February 1902 he was married to Mrs. Mary M. Woodring, who is living at her former home in Rebersburg.

The deceased was aged sixty-six years, eleven months and thirteen days. The funeral was held from his late home on Tuesday morning of last week, Rev. B. R. M. Sheeder, of the Lutheran church, officiating.

MRS. JOSIAH JACKSON.

Mrs. Josiah Jackson, mother of Prof. J. P. Jackson, of the State College faculty, was killed by being thrown from a wagon at Madison, Wis., on Friday, July 1. She had made her home with her son at State College, and was visiting at the home of another son, Prof. Dugald G. Jackson, of the Wisconsin university. Prof. Jackson with his family, his mother and a sister of the latter, were out driving, and from some cause Prof. Jackson fainted while trying to turn around on a hillside and the team ran away, throwing the six occupants of the carriage heavily to the ground. Mrs. Jackson suffered a fracture of the skull by striking the sharp stump of a small tree and lived only a short time after the accident.

Mrs. Jackson was sixty years old. Her remains were brought east for burial.

JOHN BOWERSOX.

Penn township lost one of its oldest citizens on Wednesday of last week by the death of John Bowersox, aged seventy-nine years, at his home in Coburn. For some years he was a resident of Haines township but about twenty-one years ago removed to Coburn where he resided until his death.

The deceased is survived by his aged wife, who was a Miss Fredericks, of Union county, and the following children; Dr. D. S. Bowersox, of Aaronsburg; John A. Bowersox, of Senors, and Mrs. A. P. Maize, of Millheim.

Rev. B. R. M. Sheeder officiated at the funeral services which were held at Wolf's Chapel, near Aaronsburg.

BARBARA CONFER.

Last Friday morning Mrs. Barbara Confer, wife of William A. Confer, died from the effects of a paralytic stroke.

The deceased for many years lived with her husband and family in Georges Valley. Her maiden name was Barbara Zettle. She was aged seventy years, four months and sixteen days, and is survived by her husband and the following children: Jeremiah, of Spring Mills; John, of the Red Mill; Howard and Mrs. Lizzie Harshbarger, of Locust Grove. The funeral was held Tuesday morning.

PHILO WARD.

Philo Ward, one of the oldest residents of Bellefonte, died on Saturday afternoon, at the age of eighty-six years, from the infirmities incident to old age. Mr. Ward lived with his daughter, Mrs. Wilson I. Fleming, who, with her sisters, Mrs. Frank McCumpey, of Renovo, and Mrs. J. C. Johnson, of Bellefonte, survives him. The deceased was a life-long, active member of the Methodist church. Interment was made in the Union cemetery, Rev. John A. Wood, officiating.

DEATHS.

MRS. SARAH BRIGHT.

Mrs. Sarah Bright, widow of the late Geo. Bright, died at her home in Aaronsburg Thursday of last week, at the advanced age of eighty-four years, eleven months and twenty-seven days. The deceased's maiden name was Sarah Bower, and she lived in Aaronsburg for sixty-two years. She suffered for some years from that dread disease consumption, but the direct cause of her death was dropsy.

Four children survive her, Rev. John A. Bright, Topeka, Kansas; C. G. Bright and Alice J. Bright, of Aaronsburg; Mrs. W. B. Blauer, of Spring Mills.

The funeral services were held Wednesday, Rev. B. R. M. Sheeder, officiating.

ALFRED J. LEE.

Alfred J. Lee, aged forty-nine years, of Wilkesbarre, died on Sunday, July 3rd, death being due to the effect of a paralytic stroke suffered about three years ago. Mr. Lee was married to Amanda Krebs, of Hubersburg, who with three daughters, Berdelia, Elizabeth and Mary, all at home, survive him.

He lived in Centre Hall for several years, working at the carpenter trade, and left here about ten years ago. The following brothers and sisters are all living: John T., of Centre Hall; Amos, of Colyer; J. W., of Hubersburg; Ira, of Greenwood, Nebraska, and Ellen, of Bellefonte. Interment took place at Wilkesbarre Monday of last week.

BLANCHE PALMER.

Affliction has again taken hold of the Palmer family at Potters Mills, in the death of Miss Blanche Palmer, aged thirty-three years. She was the daughter of James Palmer, deceased, and Mary A. Palmer. Ever since a child of two years she has been an invalid, and about a year ago suffered a stroke of paralysis which on July fourth resulted in her death.

She is survived by her mother and four brothers, Frank and Thomas at home; David, a lawyer, in Kansas, and Richard, of Houseville. Her father and four sisters preceded her to the grave. Interment was made at Sprucetown, Rev. G. W. McInay officiating.

WILLIAM T. LEATHERS.

William T. Leathers, a prominent business man of this county, met death at his home in Mt. Eagle last Friday by falling headlong from the second story window of his house. Mr. Leathers had engaged a man to repair a boiler at his handle factory and was talking to him from the window when Mr. Leathers plunged headlong from the window, striking his head on the stone steps. His skull was fractured and he lived but a short time after the accident occurred. The doctor who examined Mr. Leathers said that the fall was caused by an attack of vertigo.

ABRAHAM BRINDLE.

Abraham Brindle, a life-long resident of Miles township, died at his home in Smullton on Sunday, July 3rd, at the age of sixty-six years. The wife of the deceased was Mary Winters, who with two sons, William and John, both of the state of Indiana, and two daughters, Mrs. Elmer Smith, of Feldler, and Elizabeth, at home, survive him. Interment was made in the Rebersburg cemetery Tuesday of last week, Rev. H. C. Bixler, of the Lutheran church, officiating.

ISAAC MERRYMAN.

Isaac Merryman, a life long resident of Pine Grove Mills, died at his home in that place Friday evening, July 1st, at the ripe old age of eighty years. His death was due to infirmities incident to old age, after an illness of one month. He served in a cavalry command during the latter part of the war, and was respected by all the people of his community.

He was a member of the Lutheran church, and Rev. C. T. Aikens, assisted by Rev. Dunlap, officiated at the funeral.

ARTHUR ROYER.

Arthur, the interesting little son of Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Royer, of Bloomsdorf, died Sunday afternoon, of last week, of neuralgia, after a week's illness, aged three years. The funeral took place Tuesday of last week, Rev. C. T. Aikens, officiating, interment at Pine Hall.

Among the Sick.

Mrs. Leonard Rhone has not been as well as usual for the past few days.

The condition of the venerable William Locher does not show any improvement.

Mrs. F. P. Geary, who has been seriously ill for the past two weeks, is slowly improving.

PARKER AND DAVIS.

A Strong and Satisfactory Ticket Nominated at St. Louis.

The Democratic National Convention is now over, after one of the most interesting and exciting conventions in the history of the political parties of the United States.

The safe and sane element was in complete control of the convention as was manifested by the sound platform adopted and the straight and clean candidates nominated.

The delegates attending went there as free men, and not under the dictates of any one man, and their nomination of Alton B. Parker, of New York, on the first ballot, after so many different candidates had been spoken of, shows how the sentiment moulded itself after their arrival in St. Louis. The convention's selection of ex-Senator Henry G. Davis, of West Virginia, meets with the heartiest approval of all Democrats. The convention at times was in uproar and turmoil due to the different elements of the party striving for prominence of their respective views and beliefs. Out of all this controversy has arisen a sound Democratic party which has gone back to the true principles established by its founder.

Just about the time of adjournment the convention was thrown into a state of excitement, and for a while did not seem to know what to do, on account of a telegram from Judge Parker, stating that he would accept the nomination on the understanding that the convention regard the gold standard as firmly and irrevocably established. A resolution was then adopted stating that such was the feeling of the convention and Judge Parker was so informed.

Aside from the effect of the Judge's telegram on the convention, it has been the means of establishing the high character of Judge Parker for courage and independence with those who have come to know him only within the past few months and since he became prominent in connection with the Democratic nomination. It is recalled that Henry Clay once said he would rather be right than president. Such an utterance was easily made when there was no danger of a test being applied; but in Judge Parker the country sees a man who has actually had a nomination for president, and who declared he would not accept it unless there should be an understanding, which, if elected, he was to be free to administer the government in accordance with what he believed to be right.

Furthermore, Judge Parker has furnished evidence that if elected he will not be run by any one.

The Democratic party today stands before the country in a good deal better shape than it would if the much-talked-of gold plank had been accepted and nothing had been heard from the candidate. It is notorious that all party platforms are compromises. Any man of ability can make a better platform than a convention can, because he has not got to compromise.

The greatest interest was manifested in every session, and the enthusiastic shouting and singing helped to keep every person in a good humor, despite the fact that the large hall was close and hot, and that the fifteen thousand people in it were sweltering in the heat. The high tension of excitement under which the delegates labored and the arduous duties of the members of the different committees had the effect of wearing them out, and all were glad when the convention was over that they might get some rest and sleep.

LOCALS.

Isaac Smith on Monday made a business trip to Loganton.

David Locher, of State College, is visiting his brother, Wm. Locher, in this place.

B. H. Arney had his property improved by putting an iron roof on the house.

W. H. Lucas, one of Centre Hill's substantial citizens, was in town on Thursday.

In future issues of the Reporter the editor has promised to give a few impressions of the great St. Louis fair.

Mrs. W. Gross Mingle, of Bellefonte, spent Wednesday in town with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Boal.

Mrs. Kate Harpster Moore, of Milesburg, Mont., is now in St. Louis, taking in the World's Fair, and will later come east to visit friends here.

S. J. Darrach, manager of the Steel Range Company which has been operating in this locality, with his wife and daughter Gladys, on Tuesday left for the western part of the state where he will have charge of a force of men.

M. A. Burkholder and wife, tired of boarding life have gone to house-keeping in Altoona, at 802 Nineteenth Street. Mr. Burkholder is a son of Mrs. Mary Burkholder, of Centre Hill, and has located in Altoona for several years.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

D. Wagner Geiss and family, of Bellefonte, spent the Fourth of July in town.

Henry Rossmann, of Tusseyville, was a visitor at the Reporter office on Wednesday.

Rev. Benjamin Gill, of State College, has received the honorary degree of doctor of divinity.

Samuel Koch, who is employed at Irwin, Westmoreland county, visited his parents a few days.

Rev. and Mrs. Ward K. Shultz, of Milesburg took a little vacation to visit relatives in this place.

Mrs. Nancy Michaels, of Millfin county, is spending some time in this vicinity visiting her many friends.

Miss Eva Johnson, of Harrisburg, and Elisha Hanson, of Oswego, N. Y., are visiting at the home of B. D. Brisbin.

Miss Lutetia Goodhart left on Thursday morning for an extended visit to Cleveland, Ohio, St. Louis, and points in Wisconsin.

Sumner V. Hosterman, Esq., and his bride, of Lancaster, are spending several weeks with Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Hosterman.

Theodore F. Rupp has been elected principal of the schools at Boalsburg. Mr. Rupp is a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College.

The Grangers are repairing the water pipes in Grange Park which were badly damaged by the hard freezes last winter.

The members of the Egg Hill Evangelical church will hold a festival on the lawn adjoining the church Saturday evening, July 23.

Rev. H. W. Buck, pastor of the United Evangelical church at Berwick, spent a few days with his daughter, Mrs. F. P. Geary, who is ill.

Miss Mabel Zelgler, one of the efficient and obliging operators of the Commercial telephone exchange in Millheim, spent a day in Centre Hall.

Warren S. Krise, who for the past two years has been clerking for the registrar and recorder of Cambria county, was lately promoted to be deputy registrar and recorder.

The Snyder county and Union county papers in their last issues told of anthracite coal being found on the farm of John Long, near Centreville, Snyder county, along Penns Creek.

S. S. Kremer spent a few days with his brother-in-law, John Sholl, of Altoona, where his wife and child had been visiting for several weeks. They all returned Wednesday of last week.

T. F. Meyer, a prosperous merchant of Millheim, his wife and child and Austin Meyer, a hustling all-around man of Coburn, spent last Sunday with Merchant and Mrs. W. H. Meyer.

While working in the fields a few days ago, Cloyd Brooks, on the Conley farm, found a pair of glasses lost there five years ago. The glasses were somewhat bent but one of the lenses was still intact.

F. K. Lukenbach, vice-president of the Blair County National Bank, of Tyrone, with his family and H. E. Jenkins and family, of Bellefonte, spent a few days last week with D. J. Meyer, of this place.

Mrs. Adam Smith, of Centre Hill, and her daughter Miss Jennie Smith, of Philadelphia, whom she had been visiting for some time, returned home on Tuesday. Miss Jennie will remain at home some time.

Mrs. Walter M. Kerlin, of Cincinnati, Ohio, is east for the summer. She spent a few days last week in Centre Hall, the guest of her mother-in-law, Mrs. Sarah J. Kerlin, and is now visiting relatives in Millheim.

Dr. M. J. Locke, of Bellefonte, was appointed on the staff of Col. Rufus C. Elder, of the Fifth Regiment, with the rank of captain, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Boyd A. Musser, who has moved to York.

Philip Drumm, the genial proprietor of the Spring Mills hotel, was in town on Friday and found his way to the Reporter office. Mr. Drumm is a good hotel man, and the growing patronage of his hostelry is proof of the fact.

The Lock Haven school board has decided to shorten the regular nine months term of school to eight months this year in order to cut down the \$60,000 bonded indebtedness of the district. The tax levy is ten mills.

J. Norris Bogle, mother and sister, of Howard, and the Misses Valentine, of Bellefonte, made a carriage tour of the South Side. One of the party was unfortunate in losing a ladies hand satchel on the Spring Mills pike, near the Old Fort. Any one returning it to this office or to Mr. Bogle will be suitably rewarded.