

# The Centre Reporter.

VOL. LXXVIII.

CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, MAY 11, 1905.

NO 19.

## 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 X.

July 12, 1864, late in the evening, moved about four miles to the left (south) and formed line of battle; remained till midnight, then returned to former works.

July 13, moved to the right and rear about eight miles, in reserve, and went into regular camp. By detail, skirmished and fortified at many points, day and night, to the 20th.

July 26, marched north twenty miles; crossed the Appomattox river at Point of Rocks, and the James river at Jones Neck on pontoon bridge and bivouacked near the river at Deep Bottom, toward morning. Weather very hot.

July 27, at 7 a. m. the regiment joined great line of battle at Deep Bottom and advanced under enemy's shell fire; made second advance after night. Late in the night regiment was hurried to the right (north) a few miles, in the direction of heavy firing; this quieting down, returned to former position toward morning, after a wakeful, exciting night.

July 28, worked all day and strongly fortified the new position. At 7 p. m. regiment went forward on picket and fortified the new line. Worked nearly all night.

July 29, left these new works in the evening; rejoined the brigade; recrossed the James and Appomattox rivers on pontoon bridges at Jones Neck and Point of Rocks, and, after an all night's march of twenty-five miles, reached the works before Petersburg about five o'clock in the morning, July 30th, tired, and wondering "what it was all about." The great majority of the boys threw themselves on the ground and soon slept.

July 30, in the evening the regiment moved to and reoccupied its former camp, in reserve, in the rear of Fort Steadman. For nearly two weeks comparative quiet reigned; by detail, constantly engaged, day and night, in digging trenches, building forts, picketing and skirmish fighting. Heavy cannonade and bombarding seldom entirely ceased.

August 13, 1864, regiment marched ten miles and reached the Appomattox river toward noon. In the afternoon was taken on transport down the Appomattox and up the James river and landed on the north bank at Deep Bottom, opposite Jones Neck, on the morning of the 14th.

August 14, Sunday, formed lines of battle and advanced; join in battle at Deep Bottom. Regiment went to front line in evening; out all night. Wild night; lost three killed, fourteen wounded. Among the killed was William C. Meyer, of Co. A.

August 15, regiment on skirmish line all day and night. One killed, four wounded.

August 16, regiment moved a few miles to the right; sent to picket line in evening; remained out all night, skirmishing and fortifying. Lost two men wounded. Continued in the same works all day and night of the 17th.

August 18, moved several miles to the right (north) in the morning. In the evening moved down the New Market road a few miles and put up fortifications during the night; remained in these works to the 20th.

August 20, marched to the James river in the evening; transferred by transport to the south of the Appomattox river, during the night; up and going all night. Moved twenty miles and reached the works before Petersburg on Sunday the 21st.

August 22, regiment moved with the brigade about ten miles south to near Reams Station and began to tear up the Petersburg and Weldon railroad; continued this work all night and to the evening of the 23rd. Destroyed fifteen miles of the railroad and burned the station buildings.

August 24, regiment reconnoitered toward Stoney Creek, three miles and returned late in the night.

August 25, battle at Reams Station. This was the liveliest battle in which the regiment ever took part; the first and only battle in which the 2nd Corps ever lost a gun. Union forces overpowered and driven back. Retreated in the night to the Williams House. Regiment lost five killed, twenty wounded, forty-two missing, (killed or taken prisoners), total, sixty-seven, over 30 per cent.

August 27, regiment left camp at the Williams House, marched five miles to the right (north) to the works before Petersburg and camped near the Avery House, on reserve; served by detail on skirmish line day and night to Sept. 5th.

Sept. 5, 1864, moved south a few

### Giant Bed.

Mrs. J. Y. Dale is in possession of a giant bed that is of great interest to the local inhabitants. The bed at present is in the shops of Fred W. Weber, Boalsburg, for repairs, in addition to having a canopy and stairs built to reach the bed proper. This unique piece of furniture is over one hundred years old and has been handed down from generation to generation by the family of Mrs. Dale. Originally the bed cost \$80. It was made to order for a man weighing 250 pounds, and six feet, four inches tall. The wife of this man was not so tall, but of about the same weight. The second generation, five members in the family, all slept in the bed at one time. For a long time the bed was discarded, but never lost sight of.

The dimensions of this giant bed will be of interest: Height, seven feet, eleven inches; length, seven feet; width, six feet; height to top of mattress, thirty-eight inches. The material is of red birch, white maple and cherry. The posts and headboard are hand carved. There is no footboard. Mrs. Dale is having an expensive mattress made for the bed and will fit it out in the best of style.

### Dedication at Snow Shoe.

The handsome new Methodist church, at Snow Shoe, was dedicated Sunday. The pastor, Rev. H. J. Schuchart, was assisted in the ceremonies by Rev. Milford P. Shriner, a former pastor, and Presiding Elder Bell.

miles and camped at the Jones House. Fortified and skirmished by detail, daily to the 24th.

Sept. 24, regiment moved forward, took position in front of Fort Sedgewick and skirmished toward the Confederate Fort Mahone for two days and nights.

Sept. 25, regiment relieved and moved a few miles north; went to the front line between Forts Steadman and Haskeil. Skirmishing and fortifying day and night, by detail, to Oct. 15th.

Oct. 15, 1864, regiment moved to rear of and in support of Fort Steadman. One hundred and eighty-two fighting men left in the regiment out of a total of thirteen hundred and thirty-nine.

Oct. 24, moved from Fort Steadman to Fort Rice, two miles.

Oct. 26, moved from Fort Rice to the left of Fort Morton in the afternoon.

Oct. 27, in the evening a detail of one hundred men of the 148th charged the Confederate Crater Fort; lost thirty men and captured thirty-three.

Oct. 29, moved forward and skirmished all day.

Oct. 30, moved into Fort Meikle; under arms all night.

Oct. 31, moved to Fort Sedgewick, three miles to the left.

Nov. 2, 1864, skirmished all night.

Nov. 4, review by Gen. Miles, returned by moonlight.

Nov. 5, Hancock relieved of the command of the 2nd Corps; Gen. Humphreys takes command. Regiment in fight at midnight at Fort Morton.

Nov. 6, regiment in fight before Fort Morton late in the night.

Nov. 7, regiment again in skirmish in front of Fort Morton late in the night. A few slightly wounded.

Nov. 8, presidential election; 199 votes in the regiment. Co. A gave majority for Gen. McClellan of 17.

The regiment gave a majority of 55 for Lincoln. Truce from 9 a. m. to 4 p. m. to bury the dead of the recent night fights between the lines at Fort Morton.

Nov. 17, moved camp one mile to the rear of Fort Morton.

Nov. 18, tore down tents and packed up early in the evening, and kept ready to move all night, in heavy cold rain; no fires; orders to move did not come.

Nov. 19, put up tents in forenoon.

Nov. 24, moved camp; put up new quarters.

Nov. 27, dress parade, abandoned for many months, reinstated today.

Nov. 29, routed out at midnight; maneuvered twelve miles and camped near Fort McMahon.

Dec. 1, 1864, regiment moved from Fort McMahon to Forts Sampson and Gregg, on the left, to garrison duty. Regiment has now only one hundred and fifty men.

Dec. 9, at ten o'clock in the night, in heavy rain, we tore down our tents and started a new camp a little to the rear.

Dec. 24, the regiment left Forts Sampson and Gregg and moved to Fort Cummings, of which it became the garrison.

Dec. 25, laid out a new winter camp, in rear of Fort Cummings, and began to build our eighth winter quarters.

Dec. 27, finished winter quarters.

Dec. 28, packed up and moved our camp a short distance to the rear of Fort Cummings; put up the ninth and last winter quarter encampment

## EXECUTION OF GREEN AND DILLEN.

BY EDWARD E. BAILEY.

Ira Green and William Dillen paid the penalty of death for the killing of Turnkey Condo, Tuesday morning at 10:55 o'clock. Great coolness of mind was shown by both men, but more especially by Green, who considered the affair with no dread.

The procession from the jail was led by Sheriff Taylor, followed by Dillen and Rev. Cox, who had his arms about Dillen as a support. Green next followed, supported by Rev. Davidson, and last of all came the deputies.

Ascending the scaffold Rev. Cox announced that Dillen wished to say something before the hanging. The latter stepped forward and said: "I am prepared to meet my God and know that Jesus saves me. I expect to take dinner with my mother in heaven, whom I hope to meet there. There is a report going about concerning the killing of Livingston, but there is nothing of it."

After this a prayer was offered by Rev. Cox. This over, Green took hold of the rope suspended above him and calmly slipped the noose up and down. After this the ropes were adjusted by Sheriff Taylor and ex-Sheriff Cooke, and Green exclaimed: "Now gentlemen, take warning by this and don't do the same." Both men said: "Good bye, boys." The caps were drawn over their faces and Green said: "Have mercy upon us, oh my God."

All was now ready for Sheriff Taylor to pull the lever. Before doing so Green said his last words: "Here we go." The trap door fell and the bodies swung from the scaffold.

Shortly after examinations were made upon Dillen by Dr. Seibert and upon Green by Dr. Hayes. Both men were pronounced dead thirty-two minutes after the drop fell. The ropes were cut from the beam by the sheriff and the bodies were lowered and placed in the caskets. The people were not allowed to view the remains after being placed in the coffins.

Both men when hanged wore new black suits, new shoes and collars; each also wore a bouquet in the lapel of his coat.

At the request of Ira Green, his body was to be given into the hands of his relatives for burial, and in case none of them were present to claim it, Rev. Cox should have charge of the body, to be buried as he may direct.

Dillen also requested that he may be buried by the side of his father and mother, at Ansonville, but in the event of none of his relatives being present, then his body was to be buried according to the direction of Rev. Cox.

The event was one long to be remembered. Bellefonte was crowded with people and about seven or eight hundred gained admittance into the jail yard. There was a constant swaying and jostling previous to the opening of the door for entrance, and when the procession (?) moved there was a scrambling not relished by the weaker ones.

The deputy sheriffs sworn in for the occasion were Cyrus Brungart, Detect-

posed of an iron placed in a stocking, beat the turnkey into insensibility. More dead than alive, the involuntary movements made by Mr. Condo were the cause for his being struck several times by Dillen. The keys were procured and Henderson, Constance and Livingston were released from their cells.

This occurred Friday, July 29, 1904.

The alarm was given by Prisoner McCulley, and Saturday forenoon Sheriff Taylor deputized thirty-six members of Company B and a search was begun.

CAPTURED—AUGUST 1.

Green, Dillen and Henderson were returned to the county jail the Tuesday following the killing of the turnkey, after being surrounded and captured in a swamp by Horace Stiver, Elmer Fanigan, Atwood Harvey, Charley Snyder and an unknown man, all of Clinton county. A great deal of credit was also given to E. R. Taylor, James Morrison, Thos. Caldwell and R. C. Daley, members of Company B, for their hot pursuit of the convicts. Constance was not taken until Monday evening, August 8th, in Italian quarters near Bellefonte.

MR. CONDO'S DEATH.

Turnkey Condo died Sunday morning, July 31, about twenty-eight hours after the assault, not having regained consciousness. His death was due to a compound fracture of the skull and other injuries. Funeral took place the following Wednesday, interment at Spring Mills.

RECOUNTING OF THE MURDER, CAPTURE, ETC.

RECOUNTING OF THE MURDER.

Brief Rethearsal of Important Incidents of the Murder, Trial, Conviction, Appeals.

In order that the reader may have recalled to his mind the incidents connected with the crime for which Dillen and Green paid the penalty Tuesday, a brief recounting of the murder, jail delivery, capture, trial and conviction, and appeals are recorded.

PRISONERS WHO BROKE JAIL.

The prisoners who escaped from the jail on account of the killing of the turnkey were:

WILLIAM DILLEN  
IRA GREEN  
GEORGE HENDERSON  
DOMINIC CONSTANCE  
GEORGE LIVINGSTON

Dillen was imprisoned to await trial on a charge of rape. The crime hanging over Green was the theft of a watch from a lady at Unionville.

The whereabouts of George Livingston have not been discovered. At no time or place did he leave a clue after separating from Dillen and Green Monday after the murder.

THE DELIVERY.

Green and Dillen were confined to one cell. They managed to procure a table knife, which was turned into a saw. By means of this the pin of the hinge of the steel cell door was sawed off and the prisoners escaped. They descended the stairs and awaited Turnkey Condo, who entered the jail at 8:30 p. m., accompanied by Edward McCulley, a prisoner who was allowed the freedom of the jail. At this moment Green stepped forward from his hiding place and with a weapon com-

five Miles Swartzel, Robert Cooke Philip Garbrick, Lemuel Poorman, William Rider, Samuel Morrison, Harry Austin, George Everhart, Robert Montgomery, H. Schreffler.

Among the many spectators were a number of ex-sheriffs and deputies from Centre and adjoining counties: Ex-Sheriffs Wm. M. Chronister, Cyrus Brungart, Robert Cooke, of this county; Sheriff Bricker and Deputy Collins, of Mifflin county; Sheriff Harry Carlisle, of Clearfield county; Sheriff Elmer Schoch and ex-Sheriff Brown, of Union county.

These "Confessions"

The confessions of Green and Dillen are very like the confessions made that are not the exact words of the professor—no reliance whatever can be placed in such confessions, and especially so when the attorneys, at the same time the confessions are being made, are conniving to save the neck of the condemned.

Just what motive a spiritual advisor would have in trafficking in confessions, pictures, etc., is a query, and will remain so unless explained by persons who deal in them. Green and Dillen were unfortunate to the very end.

Jury at Execution.

Under the law juries were appointed to certify to the execution of the prisoners. The names of the juries and physicians follow:

For Dillen: W. M. Cronister, P. J. McDonnell, I. J. Dreese, Chas. Eckenroth, L. C. Bullock, J. W. Sunday, Oliver Whitmer, David Weiser, Henry Hale, W. R. Hamer, S. H. Bennison, F. P. Musser; physician, Dr. J. L. Seibert.

For Green: Frank Hess, James Krebs, Burdine Butler, J. P. Sebring, H. F. McManaway, E. G. Jones, John L. Curtis, Sol. Schmidt, John Decker, Jas. Schofield, Daniel Keller; physician, Dr. R. G. H. Hayes.

According to the best reports, Dillen said he "hoped to eat his dinner with his mother" not with God. Without casting reflections, there is quite a difference in the expression.

Bellefonte had the appearance of a circus day. Robinson's show will do well if it attracts as large a crowd. No one on that day will do a stunt, in any degree as foolhardy, as did Green.

As a hangman, Sheriff Taylor is entitled to a prize. He has the nerve and stability. However deserving he thought the unfortunate wretches, it was an official duty with no pleasure attached.

Miss Ida Condo, a daughter of Turnkey J. Condo, witnessed the execution of her father's murderers from the sheriff's office.

Dillen's body was sent to Ansonville, Clearfield county; and that of Green to Unionville.

## INCIDENTS OF 1869.

Local Items Taken from the Centre Reporter of Interest to 1905 Readers.

OCTOBER 15—The Centre Mills, in Miles township, was sold to T. F. Throne, for \$11,900. S. S. Wolf had been the owner.

[Geiss & Wagner advertised a horse sale to be held at Millheim, October 23. This is proof that Millheim has been a horse market for many years.]

William From, of near Centre Hall, while engaged in threshing wheat, was caught by a tumbling shaft, and every part of his clothing, except his boots, was torn from his body.

Died—In Harris township, James McFarlane, aged about eighty years.

The large barn on the farm of William Allison, on Penns Creek, above Spring Mills, was destroyed by fire together with all its contents. The origin of the fire unknown. The tenant, James Krape and family, were absent.

Married—John H. Swartz and Emma Musser, Robert Hackenberg and Susan Fees, all of Millheim.

OCTOBER 22—J. W. Snook, of Woodward, purchased the stock of general merchandise of George Swartz, in Millheim, also the Gephart store stand. The latter was purchased with a view of demolishing it and building a brick business block.

Married—By Rev. P. Sahn, D. D., in Aaronsburg, October 14, Emanuel Stover and Miss Caroline Roush, both of Haines township. . . . September 30, by Rev. Hackenberg, Henry E. Gentzell and Miss E. Struble. . . . October 10, at the home G. M. Boal, of Berrien Springs, Mich., by Rev. J. M. Barrie, Levi M. Barnhart and Miss Kate Young, formerly of the Loop.

Market Quotations, Bellefonte—Wheat, \$1.25; rye \$1.00; corn, 95c; oats 49c; barley \$1.00; potatoes 50c; lard per pound 20c; pork per pound 14c; bacon 20c; ham 25c; butter 25c; eggs 20c.

OCTOBER 29—In sliding down a straw stack Henry Emerick, from near town, struck his arm against a rail and broke his wrist.

William L. Sellers was elected justice of the peace in Harris township at the October election.

A deer loitered about the Presbyterian church, Spring Mills, while services were in progress.

Jeremiah Oliver and Philip Bowersox, of Haines township, went west to locate permanently in Effingham county, Illinois.

Rev. S. Sell, for four years pastor of the Lutheran church at Pine Grove, removed to Lloydsville, Perry county.

NOVEMBER 12—The barn of Samuel Condo, one mile west of Rebersburg, was burned Sunday. One horse, grain, hay, etc., was also burned. Mr. Condo was severely burned in an effort to remove the horse.

The following account of an accidental shooting is recorded: Last Tuesday, Joseph Gilliland, son of David Gilliland, of Centre Hill, while out on a deer hunt on the Seven Mountains, was shot in the left hand by the accidental discharge of his gun. Young Gilliland had placed his rifle down at rest with his hand partly over the muzzle, and by tripping some brush with his foot the piece was discharged, the ball entering his hand below the front finger. Mr. Gilliland immediately returned to Potters Mills where Dr. Meyer was called upon, who found it necessary to amputate the finger.

NOVEMBER 19—While thrashing, near Centre Hill, Peter Breon was caught by a tumbling shaft of the separator, which carried him once around. He was severely stunned and for some time lay insensible.

Married—By Rev. Long, November 10, William R. Mingle and Miss Lizzie, daughter of Thomas Yearick, both of Aaronsburg.

John Conley's barn, about two miles below Centre Hall, is burning at this hour, Thursday November 18, 12 o'clock. [This was the barn on the Leib farm, now controlled by Dr. A. G. Lieb, Bethlehem, Pa.]

NOVEMBER 26, Married—George Emerick, of Potter township, and Miss Mary Elizabeth Weaver, of Gregg township. . . . J. C. Moltz, of Woodward, and Miss Miranda, daughter of Dr. Reichard, of Freeport, Illinois.

DECEMBER 3—James P. Herring, Monday morning, broke ground for a new dwelling house. [This is the house now owned and occupied by G. M. Boal.]

Deaths—November 24, at Centre Hill, Catharine, consort of Robert Lee, aged 52 years, 9 months. . . . November 29, Miss Matilda Lingie, aged about 63 years.

[This issue contained the will of James Potter, occupying five columns on the first page.]

Dec. 10—Death—Frances Mary, infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Durst, of Potter township.

## TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

### HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Most of the logic in the world is wasted on women.

George Thompson, of Milroy, and Miss Breneman, of Carlisle, were recently married.

Seven-tenths of an inch of rain fell Monday night. Since then the weather has been cool.

The Reformed Sunday school will be held in the morning instead of the afternoon as announced.

Mrs. Nancy Summerson changed her address from Sinnemahoning to First Forks, Cameron county.

Crawford Aumiller, of Milroy, is the father of fifteen children, and is said to be young and active. That means volumes.

James H. Potter, member of the Potter-Hoy hardware firm, purchased the Bellefonte glass works for the sum of \$3,400.

Miss Mary E. Penny, of Snow Shoe, a student at Lock Haven Normal, was operated on for appendicitis at the Lock Haven hospital.

Rev. G. W. McIlvay, of Spring Mills, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings of this week, preached in Snow Shoe for Rev. H. J. Schuchart.

The news of 1869, say many of the readers, is old enough to be new. The column proves of great interest to the average reader whose recollection extends to that period.

Among the young men who represent their school districts in a most creditable way is E. G. Zerby, of Penn township. Unfortunately, however, Mr. Zerby's term expires this coming June, and since he is so intensely interested in his occupation of farming, did not seek re-election.

The members of the United Evangelical church in Millheim, according to the Journal, have decided to lower the spire that was recently damaged by a storm and are at present engaged in erecting a scaffold preparatory to begin work on it. As the spire now is a menace to the edifice.

There is a possibility that the Centre county people in Philadelphia will hold a picnic some time this summer. The fact that so many families for various reasons were unable to attend the mid-winter banquet will probably induce the committee in charge to continue the basket picnic.

Miss Anna Bartholomew, of Carwensville, is in town, the guest of the family of W. H. Bartholomew. Miss Bartholomew, for the past two years, taught one of the primary schools in that busy town of Clearfield county, and, as might be expected, met with great success in her work.

Jared Kreamer, of Rebersburg, was in town Monday. He expects to go to Philadelphia this week, and while there will spend some time with his daughter, the wife of Rev. David Solly, at Wayne, a suburb of Philadelphia. Rev. Solly is the pastor of a thriving Baptist congregation and is most pleasantly located.

Peter D. Phillips, of Colyer, was a caller Thursday of last week. Mr. Phillips is engaged with the Harter Brothers, at Harter, West Virginia, as engineer on the log train. The company has two lines of road that extend five and six miles in different directions. The most of the timber is manufactured into wagon lumber, chair blocks, etc., the greater part of it being oak.

Anna Louisa, aged eight years, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Laub, of Lewistown, is a happy little tot because she pieced a quilt "all by her ownself," and was the central figure at the quilting dinner given to her grandmas who performed the part of the work that took more talking than work to do. Anna Louisa is one of the writer's charming little friends, who is beginning an industrious life at a tender age.

The editor of the Reporter is indebted to W. A. Sutton, head of the shipping department of the Autocar Company, at Ardmore, for his first ride in an automobile. The drive was over the famous Lancaster pike from Ardmore to City Hall, Philadelphia, a distance of eight miles. This road passes through Lower Merion township, one of the most aristocratic sections in Montgomery county, and the longest continuous stretch of macadamized road in the United States. The greater satisfaction, however, lay in the fact that the man in charge was so thoroughly acquainted with the intricate parts of the auto and capable of controlling his machine in such a manner as to create admiration. The Autocar Company employs fully five hundred men, and the popularity of the machines they make may best be judged from the fact that the orders far exceed the capacity of the factory.

(Continued on inside page.)