

The Centre Reporter.



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SUBSTITUTES FOR FREE SEEDS.

Who is it that wants the Government's free seeds? The farmers' organizations and the agricultural journals of the country almost unanimously declare against the distribution. What do the consistent Congressmen do with the seeds they seem unable to do?

Congressmen persist in the free seed business in spite of the protests of those who are most interested. They do this because they want something to distribute gratuitously, for there can be no other reason. Then why not take something useful? If the Government would use the money now expended on free seeds in the free distribution of shoes, woolen socks, babies' cribs, clothes-wringers and similar necessities it would come much nearer to filling a long-felt want. Or, if such things are regarded as too trivial, why not provide Congressmen with diamond pins to send around to their districts? An agriculturalist who does not know what to do with Government free seeds would know what to do with a diamond pin.

The farmers do not want the seeds—they say so themselves. But they do want plows, harvesters, lawn mowers, hay rakes, gum boots and automobiles. The Government is generous with free seeds, but why force them upon a weary people, who apparently have no use for them? There are endless and valuable substitutes for Government seeds, about a million, that there would be no danger the agricultural organizations would pass resolutions against if they were handed around in congressional campaigns with the same liberality that the national seed package is. Congress ought to try some of them for the sake of variety, if nothing more.

If Congressmen must have something for free distribution it might as well be something the people would care to have and which they would appreciate.

The Government report concerning winter wheat made public last week showed a slightly larger percentage of abandoned area than had been expected in view of the generally favorable conditions for the wintering of the crop. The loss of area during the winter of 1904-5 was 1,432,000 acres, and this season it was 1,718,000 acres, but the area still under cultivation is 29,623,000 acres, or about 241,000 acres less than that from which last year's crop was harvested. The condition of the plant on the remaining area is 91, which is high, and the acreage and condition figures are interpreted as indicating a probable yield of 456,000-000 bushels. This would be a splendid output, and if no fatality shall reach the newly-seeded spring wheat the total yield for 1906 may easily be a record one.

Horses are surviving automobiles as they survived railroads. When railroads were introduced horse breeders were sure that they were ruined as British ship owners were when the navigation laws were repealed. But the British ship owner was never so prosperous as after the removal of medieval legislation, and horses became more numerous and valuable after stage coaches were abolished than they were before. The automobile and the electric car threw the horse breeders into a panic. But the Department of Agriculture reports that there are now 18,718,578 in the United States, against 14,364,667 nine years ago. In the same time mules have increased from 2,215,654 to 3,404,961, and the value per head of both beasts is estimated much higher now than nine years ago.

The Philadelphia Press is appreciative, and remarks editorially: Unless the Republicans of Pennsylvania of all factions can unite upon a State ticket that will command the enthusiastic support of all we must look for the loss of a considerable number of congressional districts at the November election. Every sincere Republican in the State undoubtedly appreciates this fact.

The more pleasing and pleasant the government can make farm life the better it is for the government. The rural route is one of the things that has been provided to make farm life more desirable and attractive, and nothing should be left undone that could be done to make the farm inviting.

Grover Cleveland and William Jennings Bryan protest that they do not want a Presidential nomination. There is equal unanimity among Leslie D. Shaw, Charles W. Fairbanks, Richmond Pearson Hobson and the perennial Swallow, but in the opposite sense.

Secretary Taft's recommendation for the appropriation of another half million dollars for the relief of the people of San Francisco will doubtless be favorably considered by Congress.

THROUGHOUT THE STATE.

News of a Semi-Local Character Gathered from the Exchange Table.

Lock Haven Council has added \$100 to the salary of the Mayor of that city. The amended rate is \$300 a year.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company is having 60,000 locust trees planted on its grounds near Conewago.

A new powder mill will be built near Clearfield by Hon. James Kerr. Work upon the plant will commence soon.

Men fighting forest fires near Belleville found a wild turkey's nest containing 12 eggs that the fire had destroyed.

Strangers in Altoona need no longer be confused concerning the location of streets or their names, the Board of Public Works having procured 1000 markers to bear the names of the thoroughfares.

A. B. Reber, near Clarkstown, has a farm of 100 acres that is all in one field, and in plowing his team travels just one mile when turning a furrow from one end of the field to the other and back.

Lock Haven Council has appropriated \$10,000 for street paving, and has decided to do the work itself. Bids will be asked for the furnishing of the materials required. It is expected the cost will not exceed \$1.60 a yard.

William G. Hertz, of Milton, owes his escape from a coroner's seance to the fact that a mad steer that attacked him and rolled him around on a road like a gum ball was deborned. Mr. Hertz was driving the animal from a farm to Milton, when the steer decided to play football with him.

Miss Ada Gladfelter, 17 years old, has just completed planting 35 acres of corn, near York. She is the daughter of the late A. H. Gladfelter, who was killed a short time ago. The only male member of the family is a crippled son and the work of farming 150 acres was left to the young man and young woman to perform.

The case of Samuel Richard, of Maitland, who was charged with writing a postal card reflecting on the character of the recipient, was disposed of in the United States District Court at Harrisburg. The grand jury returned a true bill and Mr. Richard then pleaded guilty. He had a long petition from his neighbors attesting to the uprightness of his character, and he was fined \$10 without costs.

The only one-ox rig in Montgomery county was run down by a Pennsylvania Railroad train, killing the primitive beast of burden and wrecking the cart, while the owner, John Thomas, an Upper Merion farmer, barely escaped alive. The fatality was all due to the bystanders "butting in" and confusing the ox at a crossing, so that he ignored his master's "gee" and "haw."

During a quarrel Friday about a bird's nest, in Lock Haven, Clark Dunherman, aged 17 years, stabbed Thomas Berry, aged 20 years, in the heart. Berry died in an hour, but before death asserted that the wound was inflicted accidentally and expressed a wish that nothing be done to Dunherman, as the quarrel was most his own fault. The boys had always been close friends. Dunherman has not been arrested.

Lost Her Watch.

Mrs. Lee Brooks, of Linden Hall, lost a gold watch, hunting case, between Axe Mann and Linden Hall, Sunday. The watch bears Mrs. Brooks' maiden name—Catharine Meyer—on the inside. The finder will be suitably rewarded.

Transfer of Real Estate.

Ellie L. Eaton, et. baron., to S. T. Williams, April 15, 1903; premises in South Philipsburg. \$400.

Emma P. Grove, et. baron., to Wm. B. Grove, April 2, 1906; 85 acres, 62 perches in Potter twp. \$4000.

John Gowland, et. al., to Frank D. Gowland, April 24, 1906; premises in Philipsburg. \$2500.

David Chambers, et. ux., to John Boyce, April 1, 1905; lot in Snow Shoe twp. \$3000.

Wm. P. Humes, et. al., to John A. Hoy, April 19, 1906; lot in State College. \$1,250.

Elizabeth Patton to Margaret Patton, Feb. 17, 1906; premises in Port Matilda. \$800.

C. J. Finkle, et. ux., to John H. Rishel, March 1, 1906; land in Spring Mills. \$800.

James K. Moyer, et. ux., to Henry Mowery, December 24, 1892; 15 acres, 154 perches in Miles twp. \$50.

Henry Mowery, et. ux., to John J. Shultz, May 1, 1906; two tracts of land containing in all 57 acres, 281 perches in Miles and Penn twps. \$400.

The man who buys of an order house and the merchant who has his printing done out of town belong to the same lodge—same degree.

[As previously announced, "Write-Ups" of men and women, natives of Penns., Georges or Brush Valleys, who are making life a success in other sections, will appear in The Centre Reporter from week to week. These contributions are made by a number of writers who have kindly consented to aid in conducting this department.—EDITOR.]



S. E. WEBER, SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

A certain writer has said that the best education is to be had at a price, as well as the best broad-cloth. The currency exchanged for it must have the stamp of application deeply imbedded upon it if a full return is expected for the years spent in its pursuit.

About four years ago a young man from Harris township graduated in Mechanical Engineering at Pennsylvania State College, being the youngest member of his class. Today he is a member of the faculty of the Engineering Department of Union College, in Schenectady, N. Y., being Professor of Drawing and Design and Surveying, besides teaching along other lines of the higher mathematics. The young man referred to is Samuel E. Weber, M. E., son of Mr. John H. Weber, now residing in Centre Hall.

Many a young man owes his success in life and the efforts he put forth in his formative period, largely, to the foresight and tact of his parents. Into such an environment the subject of this article was born. His family influences in general were towards education, and more in the direction of technical than classical education. Both of his grandfathers were mechanics of various kinds. His father was wise enough not to be too indulgent with his son and to see that if he wished him to grow up so as to multiply the family achievements, he must direct his youthful and ever-accumulating energies into lines of work having an end in view.

While Mr. Weber had a carriage shop in Boalsburg he taught his boy the use of tools and even helped him build a shop which he might consider his castle, and thereby develop a desire for mechanical knowledge which he did not then possess. Later, when he embarked in the mercantile business he didn't allow the boy to keep company with the daily loafers and counter-mongers, but he kept him busy filling and cleaning lamps, sweeping the store at an early morning hour, keeping up the fire; and, besides, keeping his mother's wood-box filled; and in general a lad of all-work. The evenings were devoted to preparing his lessons.

About a year before he entered college his father related an incident to him that a certain minister in Boalsburg had told his son that he could have the choice of going to work or going to college. The boy chose the latter. Mr. Weber gave his son the same option; and an experience that helped him to decide college-ward was hard work on a farm, which gave him a vision of the future, and he saw that energy expended along lines educationally mapped out would bring the greatest and quickest returns. He now began to analyze himself and felt how little he knew; and now, while many books have been studied and many things are clear that then were vague and meaningless, he continually sees other mysteries looming up before him which he desires to unfold. Professor Weber is a student; he is not puffed up; but he feels that "each excellent thing once well learned, serves for a measure of all other knowledge."

The first year after graduation he spent in North Carolina College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts as Professor of Drawing and Machine Design. From that position he resigned to accept a position as special apprentice with the P. R. R. Co., being among four or five selected from a list of about seventy-five applicants, by the superintendent of motive power, in Altoona, W. W. Atterbury, who is now General Manager of the whole Pennsylvania system. After having had experience in the most important departments of the Altoona machine shops he resigned, to become assistant to the master mechanic of the Republic Iron & Steel Co., of Youngstown, Ohio, having charge of new construction principally. But he

Lodge Boys Home.

The Millheim Lodge, I. O. O. F., purchased the old Journal office, on Penn street, from the Reifsnyder estate, and will remodel the same for a permanent home.

Grange Meeting.

There will be a regular meeting of Progress Grange Saturday afternoon, 2 o'clock.

Hereafter the Grange Library will be open every Saturday evening.

50 Broilers Smothered.

Mrs. J. S. Dale, of Dale Summit, is giving chickens considerable attention this spring, and her efforts were greatly rewarded. She had developed sixty broilers to the weight of two pounds, when the other night fifty of them smothered in their night quarters. The person who had been instructed in the evening to open the ventilator, for some reason failed to do so, which caused the loss.

Keith's Theatre.

A most interesting feature at Keith's Chestnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia, this week is James T. Powers & Co., presenting a charming sketch entitled, "Dreaming." There is an extra added attraction, this being the great Bedouin Arab troupe, who entertain with amazing feats of skill and daring. Others who will delight Keith's patrons are: Jules and Ella Garrison, in "An Ancient Roman"; Raymond and Caverly, in "It Happened in Happyland"; Melville and Stetson, high-class comedienne; Werten and Gladdish, ballads with semi-oil paintings; Edgar Bixley, monologist and parodist; Les Auberts, whirlwind dancers; Kenny and Hollis. Prolle's dogs will interest the children.

LOCALS.

Mrs. Samuel Bruss, west of Centre Hall, has been ill for several weeks.

Judge Orvis is holding court in Clinton county for Judge Mayer who is sick.

The order of Odd Fellows will participate in the Memorial services at Spring Mills. The hour set is 5:30 p. m.

Superintendent John D. Meyer, J. Will Conley and Mr. and Mrs. John S. Hosterman and baby, all of Bellefonte, were in town Sunday.

Wm. Klinefelter, of near Colyer, has been seriously ill during the past few weeks. His sickness began with grip, or some similar disease.

Dr. J. Frank Meyer is recovering from his recent illness, and within a short time expects to leave the hospital and come to his home at Penn Hall.

A test well will be sunk on the D. F. Poorman farm, in Boggs township. The machinery is on the ground now, but drilling will not begin until later in the summer.

Dr. and Mrs. George P. Bible, of Philadelphia, and the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Bradley, in June, expect to make a tour to England, the home of the Bradleys.

Some magnitude of the growth of the Christian Endeavor society can be seen from the statement that in this country alone there has been a gain in membership of 60,000 during the last six months.

"The Hesitation of Gisella," by Edith Macvane, is the title of the novelette which opens the June number of The Smart Set. It is a charming story, the scenes of which are laid in France; the period, however, is modern and the story is of an appealing character which will win for it many admirers.

Miss Mary Bradley, who has been in Philadelphia all winter taking an advanced course in the Conservatory of Music, is expected to arrive home next week. If she does so she will resume her position as organist in St. John's Episcopal church, says the Watchman, which place has been so acceptably filled during her absence by Miss Dora Meyer, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip H. Meyer.

always had his eye open for a field of larger possibilities. A few months later the position at Union College was held up to him, and he accepted because he saw a field of greater usefulness and more in the line of personal development.

A college professor must have his wits about him, so to speak, and be very familiar with the subject taught and have an answer for all possible questions, besides having a lot of questions on hand so as to list the knowledge of the student. If he lacks these fundamentals he would better get down and out. Prof. Weber is a worker. He works harder than any of his students.

October 1, 1904, he was married to Miss Lena Gertrude Davis, of Altoona, but originally from Bedford county, who was born of Quaker parents and brought up in the Quaker church. They are both members of the Reformed church.

LINE FENCE LAW.

An Old Law Renovated which Divides Line Fence Equally Between Land Owners.

During the last session of the Legislature an old fence law, passed March 11, 1842, was revived and renovated. The new law, signed by Governor Pennypacker April 14, 1905, embodies the following points:

Where a party interested in a line fence, has his own fence in good repair, and his neighbor refuses to build or repair his share of fence, he goes to the auditors and makes complaint to them. The auditors are required to examine the fence and the need of it. If they find the complaint well founded, they report the same to a justice of the peace, who is required to give the failing parties notice to repair or build the fence within 40 days. If he does not do it the other party may build it and collect the cost of it.

If the auditors find that the fence is in good repair, or that no fence is needed, then no action is taken. In either case the auditors are to receive two dollars each, to be paid by the party whom they find at fault.

Monument Dedication Program.

The following program of exercises has been arranged for the dedication of the statue of Hon. Andrew G. Curtin and the monument to the soldiers and sailors of Centre county on Friday, June 8th, 1906:

10:30 a. m.—Grand Military, G. A. R. and Civic parade.

1:30 p. m.—General meeting. Singing—"America," by the pupils of the public schools.

Invocation.—Rev. H. C. Holloway, D. D. Introductory Address.—Gen. James A. Beaver, presiding.

Presentation of the Curtin Statue on behalf of the State Commission.—Hon. Samuel W. Pennypacker, Governor of Pennsylvania, chairman of the Commission.

Reception on behalf of the County Commissioners.—Hon. Wm. C. Heinle.

Presentation of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument on behalf of the contributors and people of Centre county.—Hon. John G. Love.

Reception on behalf of the County Commissioners.—Col. J. L. Spangler.

Singing—"The Star Spangled Banner," by the schools.

Address—"The Life and Character of Hon. Andrew Gregg Curtin," Hon. Alexander K. McClure, of Philadelphia.

Tribute to Gov. Curtin on behalf of the Soldiers' Orphans.—Jacob A. Cramm, of Harrisburg.

Address—"The American Private Soldier," Gen. Thomas J. Stewart, Adjutant General of Pennsylvania.

Singing.—"We are Tenting on the Old Camp Grounds Tonight," by the schools.

Benediction.—Rev. Father McArdle.

The Heartless Gospel.

Did you ever notice that "talk" doesn't hurt a man much? Perfection isn't looked for in man, and when some one tries to injure a man by ranting about a few faults he has, the absent one, who is probably attending to his own affairs, is elevated in the hearer's estimation, while the informant is lowered accordingly. If a man knocks along, doing fairly well, people realize that while he has some faults, he has more virtues, and they are charitable enough to overlook these faults.

But it is different with a girl or woman. No matter how good and pure a woman may be, let someone start an infamous lie about her and everyone is willing to pass it along, and there is always someone to believe it. That lie can never be lived down. It may burn low but gossip-loving are ready with new fuel. Did you ever think how damnably mean some good-looking people are in this respect?

A Word to "Sonny."

A word to you sonny—you little twelve or thirteen-year-old boy who is smoking cigarettes on the sly. What do you want to be when you grow up—a stalwart, healthy, vigorous, broad-shouldered man, or a little puny, measly, weak-minded being. If you want to be a man, strong like a man, with hair on your face, brains in your head and muscles in your limbs, you just let those cigarettes alone. If you want to be a thing, pitied by your folks, despised by young ladies, and held in contempt by the fellows, keep right on smoking and end your days in the insane asylum.

Delegates to Grande Lodge.

The representatives to the Grande Lodge, at Pittsburg, from the various local lodges in Penns Valley, are as follows:

Centre Hall, J. Frank Smith. Rebersburg, C. D. Weaver. Millheim, C. W. Hartman. Boalsburg, M. J. Rishel. Pine Grove Mills, State College, Perill Rudy.

Snow and Sunshine.

Friday morning there was a brisk little snow storm, not simply a flake now and then, but the real thing fell and lay on the ground for a short time. The close of the snow fall was smiled upon by the sun which shone brightly.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

By falling from the lounge the little daughter of A. A. Stover, of Haines township, broke her collar bone.

Miss Lola Strohm is in Easton, this season, in a large millinery establishment. Last season she was in New York.

Millheim is in need of a cobbler, according to the Journal. It is strange that a town of that size is without a cobbler.

A mile of road, between Lewisburg and Brook Park is being constructed under the Sprout road law. The contract price is \$10056.

The Methodists in Reedsville are gathering money for a new church which they contemplate erecting within a few years.

Miss Tillie Keller is acting as assistant to Postmaster George M. Boni. She has the qualifications to make a first-class postmistress.

The Samuel Musser farm, near Penn Hall, was purchased by Messrs. Samuel and John Musser, two of the heirs, for \$61.55 per acre.

Theodore F. Brown, of Spring Mills, is holding down a good clerkship in a railroad office at Elizabethtown. He learned the railroad office work at Spring Mills.

The postoffice at Mazeppa, Union county, has been discontinued owing to a rural mail route from Millinburg. The citizens are much dissatisfied because of the action of the department.

Exchanges are publishing etiquette rules for 'phone use. The Reporter suggests this one: If you happen to hear something over the 'phone that is not meant for you, forget to tell it to anyone.

The Golden Eagles had a large turnout at their meeting Friday night. The order, just recently instituted at Centre Hall, has acquired many new members. There were quite a number of visitors present from nearby lodges at their last meeting.

Next to the wife beater comes the horse beater and it is to be regretted that there are guilty persons in this community. A horse is the most noble and faithful of animals and the man who would abuse his horse has something lacking in his manhood.

Manager W. F. Mallalieu and Collector Charles Donachy, of Bellefonte, passed through Centre Hall on their way to Lewistown, taking account of the Bell telephone poles between Bellefonte and that point. They also went over the lines from Old Fort to Millheim and Rebersburg.

Merchant J. Frank Smith is in Pittsburg where he is representing the Centre Hall Lodge of Odd Fellows at the meeting of the Grand Lodge. Besides attending the sessions of the lodge, Mr. Smith will be found occupying a seat, occasionally, on the grand stand overlooking the diamond.

The only person from Centre county who was in the wreck on the Peterburg cut off, last week, was Harry Yearick, of Hubersburg. He was somewhat bruised by the splintered car, but in extricating himself from the ruins inflicted a more serious injury by stepping on a nail which penetrated his foot.

Samuel N. Brown, one of the station hands at Spring Mills, was a caller at this office Friday evening. It is eleven years since Mr. Brown entered the railroad company's employ in that capacity. Previous to that he was engaged in building tram ways and during his younger days he constructed a good miles of railroad road for lumbermen.

John R. Lawyers is home again from his fourth trip to St. Louis. Mr. Lawyers is well advanced in years, but is as chipper as a lark. The last day he was in St. Louis he attended a large circus. During the performance a storm arose which caused great excitement among the five thousand spectators, and in the mix-up Mr. Lawyers was relieved of his purse containing less than ten dollars.

* A local newspaper is absolutely necessary to any community. It is the home paper that keeps the people of the community in touch with each other by giving them all the news of their own neighborhood and county. For that alone they are of value and worth far more than the small subscription price. They keep the local pride and progressive spirit aroused and in various ways are worth far more to a community than a community ever spends on them. The daily paper, with its large news service and quicker facilities, may, in some instances overshadow the weekly, but the weekly home paper fills a place in the hearts of the people that a daily cannot fill. It comes to your home as an old and tired friend, while the daily enters as a stranger.