

THE CENTRE REPORTER

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1908.

The Country Editor.

His better you will have to seek Beyond my ken. He saves the country once a week With virtile pen.

Red Cross Stamps for Sale.

Red Cross Christmas Stamps are on sale at this office. All for charity.

Jury Wheel Filled for 1909.

Six hundred names were placed in the jury wheel to be drawn for the several terms of court during 1909. The filling of the wheel, of course, was performed by Jury Commissioners Adam Hazel and Clement M. Gramley, with W. Miles Walker as clerk.

LOCALS.

James N. Van Ormer, who for a number of years lived in Millheim, died in Harrisburg, and was buried there.

If a farmer wishes to find out the amount of corn he has on the ear, multiply the length of crib in feet by width in feet, and divide by two and one-fourth. The easy way to divide by two and one-fourth is to multiply by four and divide by nine.

The 1908 Christmas stamps offered by the Red Cross Society are decidedly prettier than those of 1907. They represent so much, and when attached to a Christmas greeting they show the right spirit prevailing at the Christmas season.

Bruce Crozier, who has been staying about Centre Hall for the past few months, intends going to Freeport, Illinois, sometime next month. He has a cousin, Elkanah Crozier, living near that place, and he will stop with him for a while, and probably go on to Kansas to his uncle, J. A. Strunk.

Have you examined the label on your paper recently? Nines are wonderfully popular, and so are tens. To you it means but a dollar to put a new figure on the label and put the date in advance; to the publisher it means his very existence. The whole newspaper business is conducted on this dollar—one from each subscriber each year.

Mrs. Catharine Bitner, who makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. J. S. Meyer, at Penn Hall, has been ill for some few weeks. She is past eighty-one years of age, and consequently her sickness is regarded with apprehension. Mrs. Bitner's sisters, Mrs. Amelia Bingham, of Laurelton, and Mrs. Tamar Derr, of Lewisburg, came to see her Saturday.

The post office department is appealing to the public school teachers to teach the pupils the proper way to address letters, packages, etc., also the method of procuring money orders, etc. Many letters are improperly directed, not only in form but incomplete—the name of the person for whom the letter is intended, the post-office or state are oftentimes omitted.

The real estate of the late John Brachbill, in Bellefonte, was sold at public sale. The store and dwelling on Spring street was purchased by W. R. Brachbill for \$4,000, and the properties on High street, which includes the stores of James Wan, John D. Sourbeck and D. E. Willard were purchased by Charles Brachbill for \$3,000. The sale was made in order to settle up the estate.

Rev. Monsignor Nevin F. Fisher, of Philadelphia, is one of the prominent prelates whose name has been submitted to the Pope as successor to Bishop O'Connell as rector of the Catholic University of America. Father Fisher was born at Boalsburg, this county, and is a brother of Dr. P. S. Fisher, of Zion. He was educated at the Theological Seminary at Overbrook and the American College, Rome. Upon his return to this country he became a professor in the Overbrook Seminary. He was named as the first rector of the Catholic High school at Broad and Vine streets, Philadelphia, by Archbishop Ryan when the school was opened in 1890. The title of Monsignor was conferred upon him by Archbishop Ryan in 1906. Father Fisher is fifty-two years of age.

Potters Mills.

W. H. Smith and family, of Spring Mills, visited friends at Potters Mills, Sunday.

Wm. ... on the sick list. George ... Jordon, of Illinois, are visiting their many friends about Tusseyville and this place.

The Potters Mills orchestra gave a musicale at the home of George Jordon, Friday night.

Miss Ella Smith is staying with her cousin, Mrs. Mary Cummings.

Mrs. Sadie Foust is not improving, but is gradually growing weaker.

J. R. Strong has sold his property to W. W. McFormick, and will start for Boston, Mass., about January 1st.

The Workinger property is for sale.

A TEMPERANCE UNION.

Members Limited to Fourteen Drinks of Liquor Daily.

"Signing the pledge" is no new thing, as is proved by researches in Italy. Interesting particulars of what would appear to be the earliest examples of written pledges to abstain from gambling and excessive drinking are given in the Turin Studi Medievali by Signor Girolamo Biscaro, who has discovered three such documents in the archives of Milan. The first of these records is an oath sworn on the gospels by Giacomo Pasquall and Armanino Duca to the effect that for two years they will abstain from gambling in Pavla or within three miles thereof and will likewise refrain from inducing others to gamble on their behalf.

The penalty for any breach of this oath is fixed at 5 soldi, payable to Papio Bovatorio. In the second document Perano de Bono promises Uberto de Proto to abstain from gambling for a certain period, exception being made on behalf of the game of bismontiro, at which, however, he was not to lose more than 2 denari on any one day. Further, he undertakes not to visit any inn for drinking purposes before the hour of vespers on Monday. A breach of either clause of the pledge involves the payment of 5 soldi to De Proto. By the third document Sileto Ferrario expressed his willingness to pay 12 denari to his brother Lamperio should he be persuaded to play for money in any place of public resort or to spend more than 2 denari on intoxicants in any one day.

The motive for these contracts is not stated, but it is presumed that they were entered into by employees whose masters wished to keep their proclivities in check. There is nothing in the documents to suggest the existence of any organization for the promotion of temperance. The honor of being first in the field in this respect therefore still rests with Germany, where two temperance societies were founded in the sixteenth century.

Of these the Order of St. Christopher was formed by Sigismund de Dietrichstein on Jan. 18, 1517, and the Order of Temperance by the landgrave of Hesse on Dec. 25, 1600. The members of the one order were pledged to abstain from toast drinking, and the members of the other undertook not to drink more than seven glasses of liquor at a time, and that not oftener than twice a day.—Chicago News

A PARISIAN RUSE.

The Dressmaker's Lure That Ensnared the Americans.

Grace Margaret Gould tells in the September Woman's Home Companion some of the ways the Parisian dressmaking establishments sell their goods to American women. Here is one ruse that she saw worked in one of the biggest establishments in Paris:

There was a sudden and evident commotion among the employees. "The princess! The princess! She has arrived!" they cried.

American eyes began to bulge. Out from a magnificent equipage stepped a regally gowned grand lady, attended by footmen and maid and received by the whole bowing establishment, to the neglect of all other customers. She was in a gracious mood this day and easy to be pleased, praising their past efforts and selecting several of their new creations without regard to cost. After she had made her departure amid like ceremonies there was no need of the saleswoman bothering her head over suggestions. Every American woman present wanted a gown copied from the one the princess had bought, and she got it after much pleading and at a price far beyond the limit she had set.

And the point of this fable is this: The princess was no princess, but an employee of the house.

Every French gown has two prices—an American price and a French price. It is needless to say which is the greater price.

Along about April the cry goes up, "The Americans are coming!" and then the prices go up too.

Along about November, when the Americans have left, you might almost say they are giving away gowns, only the Frenchman never does give away anything. Then it is that the Frenchwoman in general and the French actress in particular selects her wardrobe.

The Bad Spot.

An Irishman one day was told to put up a signboard on which were the words, "To Motorists—This Hill is Dangerous."

Away went Mike with the signboard and placed it at the bottom of a very steep hill. A few days later his employer went to see how the board was put up and, finding it at the bottom of the hill, sought and found Mike.

"You blooming fool!" he cried. "Why didn't you put that sign in the right place?"

"Shure and ain't it?" asked Mike. "Don't all the accidents happen at the bottom?"—Harper's Weekly.

Crazy to Expect It.

Harduppe—Say, old fellow, lend me a hundred, will you? Riggs—A hundred what? Harduppe—A hundred dollars. Riggs—Oh, stop your joking. Harduppe (earnestly)—Joking? I was never more serious in my life. I'm broke. Riggs—My dear man, you're not broke; you're cracked!—Catholic Standard and Times.

Not Designed For Lovers.

He—I am sure Cupid had nothing to do with the alphabet. She—What gives you that impression? He—if he had been doing it he would have placed U and I much nearer each other.—St. Louis Republic.

Advertise in the Reporter.

LAND OF THE CROSSBOW.

The Deadly Poisoned Arrows of the Lissoo Sharpshooters.

On the wild frontier between China and British Burma is a barbarous tribe which has no civilized supervision. George Forrest, an English traveler, thus describes the chief weapon of these people: "If I had to suggest a title for a book on the upper Salwin I should call it 'The Land of the Crossbow,' which is the characteristic weapon of the country and the Lissoo tribe. Every Lissoo with any pretensions to chic possesses at least two of these weapons—one for everyday use in hunting, the other for war. The little children play with miniature crossbows. The men never leave their huts for any purpose whatever without their crossbows. When they go to sleep the 'nuking' is hung over their heads, and when they die it is hung over their graves. The largest crossbows have a span of fully five feet and require a pull of fully thirty-five pounds to string them. The bow is made of a species of wild mulberry of great toughness and flexibility. The stock, some four feet long in the war bows, is usually of wild plum wood. The string is of plaited hemp and the trigger of bone. The arrow, of sixteen to eighteen inches, is of split bamboo about four times the thickness of an ordinary knitting needle, hardened and pointed. The actual point is bare for a quarter to one-third of an inch, then for half its thickness, and on this portion poison is placed.

"The poison is invariably a decoction expressed from the tubers of a species of aconium which grows on those ranges at an altitude of 8,000 to 10,000 feet. The poison is mixed with resin or some vegetable gum to the consistency of putty and is then smeared on the notched point. The 'feather' is supplied by a strip of bamboo leaf folded into a triangular form and tied in a notch at the end of the arrow, with the point of the angle outward. The reduction in thickness of the arrow where the poison is placed causes the point to break off in the body of any one whom it strikes, and, as each carries enough poison to kill a cart horse, a wound is invariably fatal. Free and immediate incision is the usual remedy when wounded on a limb or fleshy part of the body, but at Chengka the uncle of the Laowo chief showed us a preparation which resembled opium dress and which he said was an effective antidote.

"With few exceptions the Lissoo seemed to us to be arrant cowards, but the crossbow and poisoned arrow are certainly most diabolical weapons. An arrow from a war bow will pierce a deal board an inch thick at seventy or eighty yards. Some of the Tsekou natives were so expert that they could hit a mark four inches in diameter repeatedly at sixty to eighty yards. As no one goes anywhere without his crossbow and his bearskin quiver full of poisoned arrows and as every village is at feud with every other village mutual suspicion is inevitable. In open fight the Lissoo are usually careful to keep at a respectful distance from each other and behind oxhide shields which protect the whole of the body. But if battle is rare, murder and sudden death by ambush in the jungle are common."

Drank and Remembered.

A porter in a big New York warehouse in Greenwich street was recently discharged for getting drunk and losing a valuable parcel. The discharge sobered him instantly, coming as a sudden hard shock. He said he would take the oath never to touch liquor again, but his pleadings for reinstatement were unheeded. He searched everywhere for the parcel, but could not recollect what disposition he had made of it. Of his honesty there had never been a question in twenty years. Overcome by the loss of his place, he got violently drunk and while in this condition recollected where he had left the parcel and went and recovered it.—New York Times.

Where Willie Was.

The professor (at the dinner table)—Oh, by the way, Mrs. Chopsticks, have you seen your little boy Willie lately? Mrs. Chopsticks—No, professor, I have not seen him since 10 o'clock, and I can't imagine what has become of him. In fact, I am very much worried about him. Professor—Well, seeing Martha pour me out that glass of water just now reminded me of something that I had on my mind to tell you some time ago, but which unfortunately escaped my memory. It was just about 10 o'clock, I think, that I saw little Willie fall down the well.—Atlanta Constitution.

Sympathy For the Orphans.

An elephant while stamping through the jungle one day quite unintentionally stepped upon a mother bird, crushing it to death. Hearing the cries of the little brood in the bushes near by, she sought out the nest and with a sympathetic sigh said: "Poor little things! I've been a mother myself. I'll keep you warm." And she then proceeded to sit upon the nest.—From George T. Lanigan's Fable, "The Kind Hearted She Elephant."

Modern Version.

"Then you will be ever at my beck and call?" inquired Aladdin. "With the exception of Tuesday and Friday afternoons, Monday and Saturday evenings and every other Sunday," firmly replied the genie.—Washington Herald.

The Knocking.

"De successful man," said Uncle Eben, "keeps quiet so's he kin hear opportunity knockin' at de do." De failure tries to do all de knockin' hisse't.—Washington Star.

Centre Reporter, \$1.00 per year.

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