

# One Centime Reporter.

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## LETTERS FROM SUBSCRIBERS.

A. N. Runkle of Santa Barbara, California, comes to the rescue of his adopted State following attempt to belittle its Grandeur.

Among the most interesting letters from former Penns Valley residents are those coming from that great western state—California. The wonders of that land have been heralded time and again until at last one who has adopted that state, but who having a strong feeling for beautiful but less advertised Penns Valley, was unable to endure it any longer, and in a recent letter to this paper compared Penns Valley beauty spots with those of California. In the comparison the latter was decidedly worsted. Naturally a rejoinder was in waiting and it now comes from the pen of Aaron N. Runkle, a former Penns Valley youth, and now head of the Runkle Shoe Company at Santa Barbara, California. Mr. Runkle begins his letter with these high-sounding adjectives:

SUN-KISSED  
OCEAN-WASHED  
MOUNTAIN-GIRDED  
ISLAND-GUARDED  
SANTA BARBARA, CALIF.

Editor Reporter:

A visit from my brother I at summer, at which time your name was mentioned, brought back to my mind the school days under the reign of Prof. Fortney and I often think what a good jolly bunch we all were. I recall some of our claque: Miss Cora Murray, Miss Blanche Lingle, Miss Heller, William and Charles Kurtz, etc. It is a long time ago and I have lost trace of all of them. I am delighted to read the letters you publish from time to time from different people and places. Some time ago Rev. A. A. Kerlin had one and my thoughts ran back over fifty years when I think of him running the Stone Mill store. I then thought him the greatest man in the world and he always was an inspiration to me.

This week I read a letter from Mary Ellen Loe, which I was amused to read. I think she is just a little home sick and she can't forget the good things in old Pennsylvania; but by and by she will change her thoughts about California. It is true lots of California is man-made, but you'll remember that the Bible says the desert shall bloom and flourish. Well that is true. I have lived in Pennsylvania a good many years and it took me quite a while before I could forget all of the good things and good people back home, with all of its advantages. I used to love to go on top of old Nittany Mountain and look over Penns Valley with its fertile fields, school houses and church steeples, but I love California with all her faults and can walk up Cold Spring trail to the summit and see a thousand times more by looking over the San Morree Valley, Goleta Valley, Montecito and Carpinteria Valleys, with their fertile soil, raising alfalfa, corn, wheat, potatoes, beans, beets, oranges, lemons, walnuts and apricots. What surprised me is that a person would come to this state and return and not see the glory and beauty of it. You can start at Centre Hall and travel all over the United States and unless you stop off you know nothing of the country, for the railroad almost always runs through the poorest country and the poorest part of towns. Take our beautiful Santa Barbara and just go through on the train and you would say they have a fine depot and the Potter hotel looks pretty good, yet you see only the back of the hotel. So if any of my friends come to California let them stop off at Santa Barbara and I will show them this country so that they would never want to live in the east. I am sorry that Dr. Hosterman did not stop here for a week for he would have changed his mind a cut this country. I admit that advertising, boosting and brains will make any place or person, and we claim more brains in this county to the square foot than in any other county. The first time I am in Los Angeles I will try and find my friend Mary Ellen and ask her what she thinks of Mt. Law and its fine view. Why, a trip up that incline and the scenery is worth a trip to California alone.

In closing will say that we can raise any thing that grows in this country, and water—I wish some of my friends that have to drink rain water out of their cisterns could have a drink of our fine pure mountain water.

Wishing you and all my friends a jolly good time, I am, Yours,  
A. N. RUNKLE.  
Santa Barbara, Calif., Jan. 13, 1916.

A. W. Kaup, a native of Centre county, died in the Soldiers' home in Milwaukee, January 9th. He was born in this county August 8, 1838, and upon reaching maturity he went west, being near Freeport, Illinois. He is survived by three children.

## CARS FOR EVERY TENTH FARMER.

Centre County Farmers Come Close to Average With 208 Autos, or 8 Per Cent. of the Total Number Farmers.

On every tenth farm in Pennsylvania there is an automobile. Farmers as a class have more pleasure cars than any other social or economic division of individuals in the commonwealth.

For the year just closed 14.1 per cent. of the cars registered in the state were in the hands of farmers. Last year 159,984 automobiles were registered and of this number 22,908 were owned by agriculturists. There are no statistics on hand, the bureau of statistics of the department of agriculture points out, showing how many registrations were issued to non-residents. If such figures were at hand, it is probable that the percentage would be much higher.

Farmers made a big gain in 1915 in the number of cars owned by them. It is estimated that the year before only 15,000 cars were in use on the farm. Growing popularity and usefulness is given as the cause for the big increase in one year.

In the richer agricultural counties the number of cars owned is very large. Lancaster county, said to be the richest agricultural community in the United States, leads with 18 per cent. of the farmers owning 1,842 automobiles. Chester county is next with 1,019 cars, and Bucks third with 963 cars, actually in the hands of farmers.

In ten of the 67 counties between 15 and 18 per cent. of the farmers drive their own cars, while in almost half more than ten per cent. own cars. Several counties report gains of 150 to 200 per cent. in the number of cars on the farm, while gains of 100 per cent. are common.

In Centre county there are 208 automobiles owned by farmers and used for business and pleasure. This is on the basis of eight per cent. of the total number of farmers in the county.

## DEATHS.

Mrs. Amelia Bingman died at her home in Laurelton on Sunday evening at the age of seventy-four years. Funeral services will be held this (Thursday) morning at 9:30 o'clock and burial made at Laurelton. Her husband, Samuel Bingman, survives her with no children. Deceased was Amelia Catherman and was born in Union county. She was one of seven children, born to one union, and the family was a remarkable one from the fact that the first death was that of the father at the age of eighty-four years. The deceased was an aunt of Dr. H. F. Bitner, of this place, having been a sister of his mother.

Robert G. McLanahan, an aged resident of Tyrone, died at his home Thursday morning of pneumonia which had its beginning with grip. He was a Civil war veteran, having been a member of the Forty-ninth regiment, Pennsylvania volunteers. He was discharged after three years of fighting with an excellent record of service for his country. He was past seventy-five years of age. Burial took place Saturday afternoon. He was a brother of James McLanahan and Mrs. Alfred Duret, both deceased, and was well known here.

Mrs. Evelyn Hammond Riddle Huston, wife of Dr. J. H. Huston of Clintondale, died at her home Friday morning. She was born in Franklin county, and with her husband came to Clinton county more than fifty years ago. The husband and three children survive.

Miss Mary Decker, for many years a Potter township charge, died last Tuesday evening at the home of Charles Leister, at Spruce town, of infirmities due to old age. She was past eighty-four years. Burial was made at Egg Hill Friday following, Rev. F. H. Foss officiating.

Forester Walter Ludwig, who for more than five years has had charge of the State land in Harris township, was transferred last week to Johnstown where he will hold the position of district forester. He will not assume his new duties until about the first of April. The new position is a step forward for the young forester and while his removal from the town of Boalsburg, where he was active in every endeavor which stood for community progress, will be keenly felt, his friends nevertheless rejoice in his promotion and wish him much success.

Many of the ills of life are due to excessive eating. He who is the master of his appetite is usually the possessor of very fair health for many years.

## YOUNG HUSBAND AND WIFE KILLED BY GASOLINE FUMES.

William H. Noll and Wife of a Few Days Overcome in Former's Garage in Bellefonte.—She Seated in Car and He Standing Beside It When Found.

Most startling to the greater part of the population of Centre county was the news which came from Bellefonte early Saturday morning, of the finding of two dead bodies—husband and wife of less than a week—who were overcome by the fumes of poisonous gases emitted by the exhaust pipe of an automobile. The dead are:

WILLIAM H. NOLL, aged twenty-seven years, of Bellefonte, and  
MRS. WILLIAM H. NOLL, nee MISS MIRANDA MOWERY, aged twenty-one years, of Rebersburg.

### MARRIED ON MONDAY.

The unfortunate young people who met this most untimely death were married on Monday of last week and were making their home temporarily with the groom's parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Noll, at Peru. Young Noll was engaged in the livery business on a small scale, besides doing automobile repair work. On Friday night he was working on the repair of his car, which was housed in a small room in his shop. His wife was with him and was seated in the rear seat of the car. It is stated authoritatively that Mrs. Noll only the night before had a close call from the effects of inhaling the same poisonous gas and that she was not feeling well on Friday night. The last one to see the young people alive was the brother of the young man—Calvin Noll—and it also was he who made the terrible find of the two dead bodies the next morning.

### DEATH CAME QUICKLY.

The position in which the bodies were found proves that death came without the least warning. The young man when discovered was standing with one foot on the fender and the other on the ground. In his hand he clutched a monkey wrench. With his arm over the front door of the car he was kept from sliding to the floor. It is presumed that he was working on the transmission when he was suddenly overcome from a draught of the poisonous gas. The fact that both were apparently overcome at the same time, making it impossible for either one to throw open the doors to permit fresh air in the room, appeared to puzzle the authorities but the supposition is that the wife had been dead probably some time before the husband died, he thinking, no doubt, that she was sleeping. When the brother appeared on the scene at eight o'clock Saturday morning the car was still running and the lifeless forms were in their same positions as when overcome some time in the night.

### CORONER HOLDS INQUEST.

Shortly after the finding of the bodies Coroner Dr. John Sebring held an inquest, impaneling the following for jury duty: Messrs. Darius Waltr, Norman Wright, N. F. Hazel, Harry Yeager and W. W. Keichline. These men found that poisonous gases from the exhaust of the automobile had caused the death of the young husband and wife. Death had evidently taken place some six to eight hours previous to the finding of the bodies.

Petromortis is the name given by physicians of that which caused their deaths. It is nothing more than asphyxiation from a combination of gases arising from burned gasoline and lubricating oil.

### BURIED IN SINGLE GRAVE.

Funeral services were held on Wednesday afternoon at two o'clock, and burial was made in the Lutheran cemetery at Pleasant Gap, Rev. C. C. Shuey, of Bellefonte, assisted by Rev. McKechnie and Youcum, officiating. Husband and wife were placed side by side.

Mr. Noll is survived by his parents and two brothers—Calvin and David. Mrs. Noll is survived by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Mowery, of Rebersburg, two sisters and three brothers; namely, Mrs. Alfred Reed, Mifflinburg; Mrs. W. J. Miller, Rebersburg; Fisher, Carl, and Marshall Mowery, at home. She was well known in Centre Hall, having a few years ago been employed at the Centre Hall hotel.

### Deaths of Centre Countians.

William W. Hampton, near Bellefonte, of cancer, aged eighty-two years.

Miss Anastasia Armor, in Bellefonte, of paralysis, aged eighty-four years.

Mrs. Cleveland Weaver, near Wadde, of pneumonia.

Miss Edith Stover, at Bellefonte, of heart trouble, aged twenty-nine years. Burial at Pleasant Gap.

Mrs. Fanni L. Kyle, at Hubersburg, of pneumonia, aged fifty-nine years.

## THE ODD FELLOWS' BANQUET.

More Than Three Hundred Gathered Around Banquet Board, Friday Night.

The annual Odd Fellows' banquet, held in Grange Arcadia, Friday night, was a most joyous affair to the three hundred and twenty-five persons who gathered around the banquet board. It was undoubtedly the largest gathering of members of the order, their families, and friends, that ever was present on a similar occasion. A number of automobiles brought people from State College and Bellefonte. The room of Progress Grange, on the second floor of the hall, was used for assembling, and was soon crowded with a mass of people, intermingling in social intercourse, and awaiting the call to the dining hall below where busy hands were preparing a sumptuous repast. Preparation for the occasion had been going on for several days previous, for it is known that the killing and cooking of seventy fat chickens is no small task. Chicken, therefore, was the piece de resistance of the banquet, and there was plenty to fill all to satiety. Waffles, baked to a turn, and piled to dizzy heights, awaited the fork in the kitchen connected with the grange hall.

At eight o'clock the march was begun and the three tables running full length of the hall were soon filled with a hundred and twenty-five diners. J. S. Stahl invoked the Divine blessing after which all were seated. Besides the principal dishes there was an endless variety of other good things, finishing with excellent ice cream and cakes. Three times were the tables filled with diners and so well did the committee figure on the amount of "eats" necessary that all had plenty and to spare.

A Bellefonte clothier was present and took the measurements of fifty or more Odd Fellows for white suits and hats which will be worn in the parade during the celebration of the Odd Fellows' Anniversary in Bellefonte, in April.

### LOCALS.

Ground hog day is less than a week off. Then, six weeks until spring.

Grip still holds sway in every section of the valley and few, very few, families, indeed, but that had one, two, or more members suffering from the epidemic.

M. F. Rosman of Tusseyville made a brief call on the Reporter last Thursday and, of course, did not return home without first fondling the little granddaughter at the Prof. Heckman home.

Mr. and Mrs. Charles D. Frazier and C. W. Wolfe, of Aaronsburg, suited to Centre Hall on Monday, and while here Mr. Frazier visited his sister, Mrs. Albert Meyer, who has been ill for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. George Nearhood, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Shoar, Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Showers and two sons, and Percival Rudy, all of State College, were among those who attended the Odd Fellows banquet, Friday night.

Kessler's Department Store, Millheim, wish to call your attention to a change of dates for giving away free two beautiful mirrors, in connection with their big sale. The days on which the lucky numbers will be drawn are Wednesday, February 2nd, and Monday, February 7th. adv.

The severe cold weather of last week was closely followed by a term of real spring weather. Mercury climbed from one degree above zero on Monday of last week to 64 on Friday. Sunday and Monday were beautiful days with just enough snap in the air to make it a real pleasure to be outdoors.

The P. R. R., last week, withdrew from service the "Federal Express," a through train from Boston to Washington, and will hereafter be run only between Philadelphia and Washington. E. S. Ripke, the Hamilton-Brown shoe man, of this place, whose travels often required the service of this train, received a notice to this effect a few days ago.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Miller of Altoona on Sunday came to the home of the former's mother, Mr. Rachel Miller, in Centre Hall, and returned on Monday afternoon. Mr. Miller is a Penns. coop. They were accompanied by Mrs. Miller's sister, who had the misfortune to lose a gold watch between the top of Nittany Mountain and the stopping place of the trip.

The Millheim "movie" owners entertained the members of the Modern Woodmen of America, of Millheim, on Friday night by showing eight or ten first-class reels. The show was given for the order and their families exclusively. Messrs. S. F. Kreamer, C. D. Mitterling, C. M. Luse, and their families, from this place, were present. The membership of the Centre Hall lodge was some time ago transferred to the Millheim lodge.

## OUT-DOOR SLEEPING.

Little Talks on Health and Hygiene by Samuel G. Dixon, M. D., LL. D., Commissioner of Health.

That which is looked upon as a fad today becomes the necessity of tomorrow. This is largely the case with out-door sleeping.

With the beginning of the active campaign against tuberculosis but a few years or so ago, out-door sleeping was recommended for those suffering from tuberculosis and others whose general physical condition seemed to warrant it.

These pioneers were looked upon by their friends and neighbors with interest and they openly expressed belief that if they survived this exposure, which was doubtful, they would soon tire of the experiment anyhow. As a matter of fact there are a hundred open air sleepers today where there was one a decade ago and it is no longer limited to those who are in ill health.

All who have tried open air sleeping are enthusiastic about it and they constitute an ever growing group.

A sleeping porch is coming to be looked upon as an essential part of the home. Whole families have taken to sleeping in the open and have been so benefited by it that they would never consider anything else.

The proper garb to insure warmth despite the temperature is essential. With a warm room for dressing accessible there is no reason why this invigorating and stimulating custom should not continue to grow in popularity.

Many men and women who of necessity must spend their working hours in-doors can obtain during their rest at night, at least a portion of the outdoor air that Nature intended us all to have.

Sleeping porches can be constructed on the most modest homes at a comparatively small cost and in the majority of instances they can be guaranteed to save their cost in doctor bills. The change from sleeping in closed warm rooms to out-door sleeping must be brought about gradually, giving Nature time to meet the new conditions. The very old or the very young demand more protection than the adult in the prime of life.

### For a "Pay Up Week."

"Pay Up" weeks are becoming popular in various sections of the country, and generally speaking have resulted in putting large sums of money into circulation and closing up many accounts. A ten-dollar bill started on a "Pay Up" mission on Monday morning would liquidate many bills until Saturday night. It might be well for the local business men and citizens to get together and fix on a week for the paying up of little bills and big bills.

### Births Far Outnumber Deaths in Centre.

According to figures recently compiled by the various registrars on vital statistics in Centre county, there were 640 deaths in the county in 1915 as compared with 1132 births. The great lead the State has been holding over Father Time for the past few years is assurance of a big increase in Centre's population at the next decennial census. In Centre Hall borough there were fourteen births to six deaths in 1915; Potter township had six births in excess to the number of deaths, the figures being 31 to 25.

### Back in Furniture Business Again.

L. G. Rearick, who several years ago was in the furniture business in this place, later moving to Florida and then to Jersey Shore, has purchased the stock and good will of the Seesholtz Furniture Company, at Lock Haven. Inventory was begun on Monday. Mr. Rearick is an excellent business man, having had years of experience in the furniture line, and will no doubt prove a success in Clinton county's capital.

### Elderly Lady Had Bad Fall.

Mrs. Mary Swartz, mother of Merchant C. W. Swartz, of Tusseyville, who makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. D. F. Fortney, sustained injuries in a fall on the ice last week which, while they did not manifest themselves in a break; yet were in a sense more serious for the reason that her entire physical makeup was subjected to a most severe strain.

### Presented Sword to College.

Henry W. Shoemaker, proprietor of the Altoona Tribune, has presented a sword to The Pennsylvania State College. This sword, like the General Beaver sword, will be awarded to the freshman company of the college battalion which shows the greatest military training at the annual Pennsylvania Day drill. The General Beaver sword will be competed for by the sophomore class only.

### Who said "Pay up Week."

## TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

### HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS

How about a "pay up week" for Centre Hall?

John H. Krumbine, postmaster at Vintondale, attended the Odd Fellows' banquet, in Grange Hall, Friday night.

F. V. Goodhart offers for sale his team of black horses and advertises them in this issue. He expects to do without a team, resorting to hiring.

The great majority of the wheat fields in Penns Valley look rather unpromising, but then there are yet five months and more in which the crop may recover.

Mrs. Paul Brown, wife of the evangelist who conducted a campaign here last summer, is ill with diphtheria at Sayre where the party was holding meetings.

A Philadelphia jury gave a verdict against a rum seller in the sum of \$2500 in favor of a widow whose husband virtually drank himself to death at the defendant's bar.

Millburg had a nasty fire last week when the factory of the Millburg Novelty Works was entirely destroyed. The loss was between \$5000 and \$6000.

Roland Zettle, tenant on the Spangler farm, near Colyer, favored this office with a call last Thursday. Mr. Zettle is one of the great majority upon whom the grip took a tight hold and it is loathe to let go of him.

The Clearfield Public Spirit, established in 1875, was totally destroyed by fire Wednesday afternoon. The paper was owned, managed and edited by Matt. Savage. The total loss occasioned by the fire is estimated at \$40,000 to \$50,000.

After five years severance of athletic relations between "State" and Bucknell, the two colleges met in a basketball game last week in which "State" defeated her opponents. Bucknell has again been placed on "State's" football schedule and will play at State College, October 7th.

County Superintendent D. O. Eilers visited the borough schools last week. He has already planned to get some of the really big men in educational work for the next teachers' institute. Among the notables is a pretty certain of securing is the United States Commissioner of Education.

Luther M. Royer, who owns and farms the one-time Wilson farm, east of Centre Hall, was a caller on the Reporter on Friday and had his name placed on the subscription list. Mr. Royer claims the zero weather of last week did little damage to wheat despite the fact that no snow protected it.

Reagle, the stock and hog buyer, shipped a car of hogs from the Centre Hall station on Thursday of last week, making the seventh car lot of hogs shipped by him this season. Six and one-half cents per pound was the price paid for the last shipment. Mr. Reagle also purchased a lot of cattle in this valley.

Martin Woodling, a trombone player in the Odd Fellows' Orphanage at Sunbury, died of pneumonia last Thursday. The youth, 16 years of age, was a member of the band that was present at the Odd Fellows celebration at Centre Hall last summer. The orphanage has more than a hundred and twenty-five cases of grip.

State College feels sure that construction of the federal building will be started in their town within the present year. This in view of the fact that Mr. Woodring, whose property was purchased by the government, last week received a letter from the Treasury department informing him to have the house removed from the lot sixty days after notice had been sent him.

With a view of breaking up the habit of selling tobacco to those under the "tobacco age limit," the authorities in Lock Haven, pressed by the school board, have commenced a crusade against the tobacco dealers. Two arrests have been made. It is very much regretted that merchants do not try to enforce the law themselves, since the sales to children nets them but very little profit. This, of course, would not be the highest motive for obeying the law, but with too many it is the one motive that prompts.

If ownership of an automobile is evidence of prosperity, the farmers of Pennsylvania are the most prosperous class in the state, according to a report issued at Harrisburg, which shows that there is an automobile on every tenth farm. More than fourteen per cent. of all the cars registered in the state last year were owned by farmers. If the back-to-the-farm boomers need any more arguments than they have already advanced they might present these statistics for the benefit of the city man who wants to know how to get an auto.