The Centre Democrat.

BELLEFONTE, PA.

A Bridge 21 Miles Long.

The Wonderful Trestle from Shore to Shore Across Lake Pontchartrain.

On Sunday a party, composed mainly of railroad officials and contractors interested in the building of the New Orleans and Northeastern railroad, took a trip across Lake Pontchartrain for the purpose of examining the great trestlework now in course of construction. The entire length of the trestlework when completed will be twenty-one and a half miles. This distance comprises thirteen and a half miles from People's Avenue Canal to the Point, five and three-quarter miles across the lake and two and four-tenths miles from the north shore. All of the piling along the southern shore, with the exception of about one mile, has been driven and this division will be completed by July 1. Of the piling in the lake two and a quarter miles have been driven and one mile of the work is completed. The trestle on the north shore has been finished some time and the rails are laid nine miles, or to Pearl river. The trestlework is all constructed after the same plan, except that the cross-ties are further apart in the approaches than in the bridge proper and that the timber used on the latter is all creosoted. The description of the bridge will answer for the other work.

This structure, which probably will be the longest of the kind in the United States, will also be one of the most substantial. Experts in railroad building pronounce the sections already finished the most perfect specimen of trestle construction they have seen. The piles average sixty feet in length and are driven about forty feet. In each bent there are four piles and the bents are fifteen feet apart. The caps of the piles are 12 by 14 inches, and the stringers are six by sixteen inches, and three of them on each side laid on edge. The cross ties are only four inches apart, and on them are bolted stringers, which act as guard rails. The ties form a secure decking to the trestlework, upon which the wheels of a car could run without danger of leaving the bridge on account of the guard rails.

The trestlework, from beginning to end, is one of the grandest undertakings connected with railroad building in the south. Some idea of its magnitude may be formed from the statement that the quantity of lumber required, outside of the piles, is over 15,000,000 feet. There will be 8,161 bents, of four piles each, or 32,644 piles.—*New Orleans Picayune.*

Singular Funeral Rites

A very interesting chapter in the New York *Evening Post* delineates the religious characteristics as displayed by the colored people of the lower Mississippi. It is shown that all ceremonies in any way connected with religion display remarkable emotional and sensational elements. The funeral is simply an occasion for indulging in the luxury of grief and being for the moment the centre of observation and the subject of conversation. After the deceased is laid out and placed in a coffin, the latter is lifted into a wagon drawn by mules. "It is the traditional and always exacted privilege of the nearest of kin," says the *Post's* correspondent, "to sit on the coffin as it goes to the grave. Over the wagon and often in the procession are borne small flags of divers colors, each with its meaning. A black flag, as I hear, indicates the bad character of the dead, or at least a rational doubt as to his moral traits and prospects of posthumous happiness; a white flag symbolizes his good qualities, while a black banner crossed with white marks is the church emblem to typify his Christian fellowship. Then the long procession, made up of dusky families in wagons and on foot, wending its way to the grave, singing, shouting and wailing. At the grave the service is short, while the chief mourners, crowding around the shallow hole, throw their hands wildly in the air, shout, and finally fall down, tearing the earth in their seeming paroxysms of woe." The funeral sermon takes place after the burial. Sometimes it is postponed two years and even ten years. When it is delivered the occasion is a memorable one. Half a dozen preachers are engaged and the services last all night.

What to Cultivate in Florida.

Editor Medill, of the Chicago *Tribune*, returned from a visit in Florida recently and being an intelligent observing man he told a reporter among other things, something about orange culture and the land of flowers. He said orange culture is, of course, the furore there, but it takes eight or ten years to bring an orange grove to the profitable bearing stage. I am of the opinion that it would be far wiser and more profitable for northern settlers to devote themselves cheifly to producing what they call 'truck'—that is vegetables, including strawberries and potatoes—for the norhern market. Vegetables will grow all winter in nearly all portions of the state, and I saw Early Rose potatoes, dug last month that were finer than those we import from Bermuda. I was told, too, that where the soil is favorable, and by a moderate use of fertilizers, crops of from 159 and 250 bushels per acre can easily be raised, which readily sell for $2.00 per bushel on the St. John's river. Below the twenty-ninth degree of latitude, which is supposed to be the "frost line," lemons are grown much more profitably than oranges, being a surer growth, and much less liable to injury from worms and insects. Bananas and pineapples, however, are bound to become the popular fruits of central Florida for large profits and quick returns. I was told of men who make $1,000 an acre in 1882 on the Indian river, with their pineapple fields. Pineapples are planted like cabbages, and will produce 10,000 heads to the acre. The fruit is marketable in eighteen months from the time the ground is cleared, broken and planted with sprouts. The banana is ready for market in less than three years, while oranges take from seven to eight."

A Premature Opinion.

The Superior Court was in session in one of the lower counties of the circuit, and the Solicitor, with the counsel for the defense, were engaged in the selection of a jury for the trial of a man charged with murder. As usual in such cases some difficulty was experienced in obtaining a jury, and the Court was getting tired of the tedious proceedings. "Call the next juror, Mr. Clerk," said the Solicitor for the hundredth time. The Clerk called out the name and an old man with an honest face and a suit of blue jeans clothes rose up in his place, and the Solicitor asked the following customary questions: "Have you, from having seen the crime committed, or having heard any of the evidence delivered under oath, formed or expressed an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the prisoner at the bar?" "No, sir." "Is there any bias or prejudice resting on your mind for or against the prisoner at the bar?" "None, sir." "Is your mind perfectly impartial between the State and the accused?" "It is." "Are you opposed to capital punishment?" "I'm not." All the questions had been answered, and the Court was congratulating itself on having another juror, and the Solicitor in solemn tones said: "Juror look upon the prisoner—prisoner, look upon the juror." The old man adjusted his spectacles, and peeringly gazed at the prisoner for full half a minute, when he turned his eyes toward the Court and earnestly said: "Judge, I'll be condemned if I don't believe he's guilty.—*Elberton (Ga.) Southerner.*

From the Record.

Y. M. C. A. Notes.

Officers.

Dr. J. W. Rhone, President.
W. I. Fleming, Vice President.
J. W. Gephart, Treasurer.
Chas. F. Cook, Recording Secretary.
J. W. Miller, General Secretary.

Executive Committee.

James A. Beaver.
W. S. Zeller.
Clement Dale.
R. F. Shaffer.
N. S. Bailey.
D. S. Keller.
F. P. Green.
A. S. Valentine.

Regular Meetings.

Sunday, 4 o'clock, for young men.
Monday, 7 p. m., for boys.
Friday, 7½ p. m., for young men.
Saturday, 7 p. m., boys' Bible study.
Thursday evenings, educational classes and lectures.
Tuesday evening, the first of each month, Board of Managers.

An Opportunity.

Two members have pre-empted ten shares of stock for the Y. M. C. A. in the new Building Association. Several young men will unite to purchase shares and if any friend will carry one, five or more shares for the benefit of the Y. M. C. A., please send us word to that effect. Saloons, gambling houses and the like require a home for successful work, why not have an ever open resort under the auspices of God's people for the boys and young men of your homes? The Y. M. C. A. is permanent and will flourish when the bowl ceases to flow or the pool and gaming table are ashes. When a couple gets married a home is sought; Bellefonte and the Y. M. C. A. have been closely united for several years. Give it a home.

THANKS to the response of many friends we are enabled to add several volumes to our library. As this is the *only public library* in the town there ought to be added monthly twenty books—not useless, unreadable ones which you do not want, but standard biography, history, science, poetry and fiction.

Topics and Leaders.

Friday, May 18th, At God's right hand now as Intercessor, then as Judge, Rom. viii, 34; Rev. vi, 15-17. R. F. Shaffer.

Sunday, 20th, Opportunities overlooked, Matt. xxv, 41-46; Gal. vi, 10. Chas. F. Cook.

Friday, 25th, Where shall rest be found? Matt. xi, 28-30; Ps. xxxvii, 7. Cyrus I. Solt.

Sunday, 27th, Bound by Satan, but released by Christ, Luke xiii, 10-17. W. I. Fleming.

Friday, June 1st, Whom ought we to obey? Acts iv, 19; v, 29; Dan. vi, 5-10. John A. Rankin, jr.

Sunday, 3d, Monthly meeting. J. W. Gephart.

Friday, 8th, What reward am I seeking? Matt. vi, 1-6. Thos. Orbison.

Sunday, 10th, True fellowship—how secured and maintained, I John i, 5-7. John Olewine.

Friday, 15th, What our Lord says about the forgiveness of sins, Mark ii, 5-12. D. A. Kennedy.

A *leader's* preparation—prayer and study: a *member's* preparation—prayer and study.

SINCE the Board of Managers began taking tea together at 6 p. m. on the evening of their regular monthly meeting, they have concluded the experiment is highly satisfactory. Last Tuesday evening but one member of the Board was absent. Nearly all the departments of work were considered, and one important matter—that of a building fund—was practically presented. A communication from the State Executive Committee was read by Gen. Beaver. The chairman of the Devotional committee, brother Daniels, was present and stated that during his temporary absence Mr. James P. Irwin would take the responsibility of this chairmanship. Mr. F. P. Green's report showed that the Orchestra lacked but about $87 of paying for the piano which they presented to the Association and, as two concerts were yet to be given, it was hoped that the balance would be easily secured. Mr. Cook, secretary, was authorized to purchase a set of Dickens' and Scott's works.

I ASSERT that if the Young Men's Christian Association did no more than to impress some religious principle upon the business of our city, it would be worthy of our generous support. And when we consider the difference, as a member of the community between the young man who, under the influence of such an association, has learned his duty to his fellows and to the State, and that one who subjects himself to no moral restraint, yields to the temptation, and thus becomes vicious and criminal, the importance of an institution in our midst which leads our youth and young men in the way of morality and good citizenship must be freely admitted.—*Gov. Cleveland, of New York.*

IF fifty young men would unite to pay twelve cents each per week they could carry twenty-five shares of Building and Loan Association stock for the Y. M. C. A. In due time a building with all conveniences and a gymnasium would be a constant pleasure and resort for them and their friends. One gentleman offered to carry five shares alone for the Y. M. C. A. providing a number of others would carry additional shares. All who will aid in this will please consult J. W. Gephart, Edwin F. Garman, W. I. Fleming, Dr. J. W. Rhone, D. S. Keller, or Harry Green.

February Statistics.

Population of Bellefonte	3,200
8 Young men's meetings	165
1 General meeting	195
5 Boys' meetings	202
Board of managers meeting	14
Association meeting	20
Concert	200
Rehearsels, musical	26
Penmanship Class, attandance	21
Papers and tracts distributed	1250
Invitations to meetings	450
Books from library	28
Visitors at the Reading Rooms	668

A MEMBER in speaking of the four young men who were sent to penitentiary a few days since, expressed the profoundest regret that fine-looking young men, as these fellows certainly were, should allow Satan so to prostitute their God given powers. How sorry and yet how common a sight! Our greatest energies are not put forth for a better master than Satan. Young man, are you receiving credit of God with no *desire* to balance the account by seeking to do his will?

Tract and Bible Fund.

Amt. previously acknowledged	$2.85
Received during April	27
Total	3.11
Paid for supplies	2.83
Balance on hand	28

THERE is wisdom in a special organization through which the churches of Christ may work in reaching men. Such an organization is the Young Men's Christian Association. It is a valuable adjunct to the churches. Give it your sympathy and support.—*Rev. A. H. Strong, DD. LL. D., Pres. Baptist Theo. Seminary, Rochester N. Y.*

MR. LANDON'S (Eli Perkins) lecture was of a higher order than that of the ordinary humorist, and gave more general satisfaction than the average funny man's talk. The Association netted $35.

HUMILITY is *the* characteristic of God's children.

"WE are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags."—Isaiah lxiv. 6.

A CLASS of boys are receiving instruction on the violin in the hall every Thursday evening. Mr. Lemuel Bierly is teacher.

CHAIRMAN GARMAN, of the reception committee, reported at the last Board meeting that the annual festival will be held early in June.

ON the evening of the 23d ult., Mr. C. C. Johnson, familiarly known as "Blind Charley," gave our boys a fine musical entertainment.

MR. J. W. GEPHART spent Sunday, the 6th, with the brethren at Williamsport, it being their anniversary day. Mr. Gephart was one of the speakers.

THE penmanship class taught by Mr. J. C. Meyer, held its last session on the 23d ult. The members express themselves as highly pleased with the results and are warm friends of Mr. Meyer.

THE Young Men's Christian Association is an institution, the very mention of whose name should cause the breast of every American citizen to thrill with pride and enthusiasm.—*Harper's Weekly.*

THE concert given by the Bellefonte Orchestra on the 19th was fully up to the standard which this musical circle has set. Mr. Lemuel Bierly's violin solo called forth the applause of the well filled hall.

NO OTHER agency has yet been discovered in which are combined, to the same degree, those desirable constituent elements, catholicity, economy, originality, progressiveness, efficiency, sympathy and vitality.—*Bishop Peck.*

THE Young Men's Christian Associations are located as follows: United States, 824; Dom. of Canada, 56; Bermuda, 1; South America (Chili), 1; England, 198; Scotland, 188; Ireland, 18; France, 65; Germany, 422; Holland, 450; Switzerland, 209; Sweden and Norway, 85; Belgium, 24; Denmark, 3; Spain and Portugal, 19; Italy, 20; Turkey, 25; Austria, 4; Russia, 7; Syria, 5; India, 2; China, 2; Japan, 2; Africa and Madagascar, 26; Australasia, 25; Hawaiian Kingdom, 1; total 2,671. About 200,000 persons are found in the membership of the Associations.

A cubic inch of gold is worth $210; a cubic foot, $362,380; a cubic yard, $9,797,762. This is valuing it at $18 an ounce. At the commencement of the Christain era there was in the world $427,000,000 in gold. This had diminished to $57,000,000 at the time America was discovered, when it began to increase. Now the amount of gold in use is estimated to be $6,000,000,000.

The grand jury for Pike county, Georgia, in its last presentment returned the following philosophical abstractions: "Bed roads, like bad whisky, not only make bad morals, but, like bad whisky, impose upon the people taxes heavy, onerous and, if we only pause to contemplate them, perfectly appalling."

Doctors Disagree.

As a reporter for the Pittsburg *Commercial Gazette* sat (yesterday afternoon) in a chamber at No. 321 Federal street, Allegheny, listning to a terrible tale of suffering as it fell from the lips of a gentle little lady, Mrs. Ingram, the daughter of Capt. Hugh McKelvey, of this city, it seemed almost too much to believe, if the evidence had not been close at hand to substantiate every word. It was but another evidence of the culpable ignorance of a large class of practitioners of medicine who claimed for six years that her terrible disease was cancer. She was covered with ulcers, given up to die. *Persona* cured her perfectly. Continued on page 24, in "Ills of Life," by Dr. Hartman. Ask your druggist for one. 19 2t

Remember This.

If you are sick Hop Bitters will surely aid Nature in making you well when all else fails.

If you are costive or dyspetic, or are suffering from any other of the numerous disease of the stomach or bowels, it is your own fault if you remain ill, for Hop Bitters are a sovereign remedy in all such complaints.

If you are wasting away with any form of Kidney Disease, stop tempting Death this moment, and turn for a cure to Hop Bitters.

If you are sick with that terrible sickness Nervousness, you will find a "Balm in Gilead" in the use of Hop Bitters.

If you are a frequenter, or a resident of a missmatic district, barricade your system against the scourge of all countries—malarial, epidemic, billious, and intermitten fevers—by the use of Hop Bitters.

If you have a pimply, or sallow skin, bad breath, and aches, and feel miserable generally, Hop Bitters will give you fresh blood, and sweetest breath and comfort.

In short the disease of the Stomach, Bowels, Liver, Nerves, Kidneys, Bl[illegible] $500 will be paid for a case they cannot cure or help.

That poor invalid wife, sister mother can be made the picture of health by a few bottles of Hop Bitters, a trifle. Will you [illegible] 18 4t.

Change of Mind.

I declined to insert your advertisement of Hop Bitters last year, because I then thought they might not be promotive of the cause of Temperance, but find they are, and a very valuable medicine, myself and wife having been greatly benefited by them, and I take great pleasure in making them known.

REV. JOHN SEAMAN,
Editor *Home Sentinel*, Alton, N. Y.
19 2t.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.

Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rest by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of cutting teeth? If so, send at once and get a bottle of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP FOR CHILDREN TEETHING. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer immediately. Depend upon it mothers, there is no mistake about it. It cures dysentery and diarrhoea, regulates the stomach and bowels, cures wind colic, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP FOR CHILDREN TEETHING is pleasant to the taste, and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price 25 cents a bottle. 5-7-1y.

Itching Piles—Symptons and Cure.

The symptoms are moisture, like perspiration, intense itching, increased by scratching, very distressing, particularly at night, seems as if pin-worms were crawling in and about the rectum; the private parts are sometimes affected. If allowed to continue very serious results follow. "SWAYNE'S OINTMENT" is a pleasant, sure cure. Also for Tetter, Itch, Salt Rheum, Scald Head, Erysipelas, Barbers Itch, Blothches, all scaly, crusty Skin Diseases. Sent by mail for 50 cents; 3 boxes $1.25, (in stamps). Address, Dr. SWAYNE & SON, Philadelphia, Pa. Sold by Druggists. 5-8-1y

Swayne's Pills—Comforting to the Sick.

Thousands die from neglect to properly treat Impure Blood, Constipation, Dyspepsia, Malaria, Apoplexy, Liver, Kidney, Heart Diseases, Dropsy, and Rheumatism. But to the debilitated, burdened with such serious sickness, we conscientiously recommend "SWAYNE'S PILLS," which contain medicinal properties possessed by no other remedy. Sent by mail for 25 cents, box of 30 pills; 5 boxes, $1, (in stamps). Address, DR. SWAYNE & SON, Philadelphia, Pa. Sold by Druggists. 5-8-1y.

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3d, That we invite all who intend papering to call and see our line of Goods before ordering elsewhere.

4th, We have in our employ first-class Paper-Hangers and Painters, and are prepared to take jobs of Painting, Graining, Sign-Writing and Paper-Hanging, large or small, and complete the work with neatness and dispatch.

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Frazier's Root Bitters are not a dram-shop whisk beverage, but are strictly medicinal in every sense They act strongly upon the liver and kidneys, keep the bowels open and regular, make the weak strong, heal the lungs, build up the nerves and cleanse the blood and system of every impurity.

For Dizziness, Rush of Blood to the Head, tending to Apoplexy, Dyspepsia, Fever and ague, Dropsy, Pimple and Blotches, Scrofulous Humors and Sores, Tetter Ring Worm, White Swelling, Erysipelas, Sore Eyes and for young men suffering from Weakness or Debility caused from imprudence, and to females in delicate health, Frazier's Root Bitters are especially recommended.

Dr. Frazier: I have used two bottles of your Root Bitters for Dyspepsia, Dizziness, Weakness and Kidney Disease, and they did me more good than the doctors and all the medicine I ever used From the first dose I began to mend, and am now in perfect health, and feel as well as I ever did. I consider your medicine one of the greatest of blessings.

MRS. M. MARTIN, Cleveland, O

Sold by all druggists everywhere at $1 per bottle

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Read what the Hon. J. M. Coffinberry of Cleveland says about Dr. William's Indian Pile Ointment: I have used scores of Pile Cures, and it affords me pleasure to say that I have never found anything which gave such immediate and permanent relief as Dr. William's Indian Ointment

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Two reliable men to solicit orders for our Nursery Stock in this and adjoining counties, on a salary. We will give a month's trial, and advance money for the expenses of the same; and, if successful, steady employment and good pay. Address, S. G. CHASE & CO., The Chase Nurseries, Philadelphia, Pa. (Enclose stamp.) 50-8t

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