

LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

The paper for this week DEMOCRAT being delayed we are compelled to issue a half-sheet.

Trains on the road to Montandon run down as far as Coburn and return, they run on the regular schedule time.

Miss Emily Harris, of this place, visited friends at Lock Haven and was detained by the flood several days.

In Brushvalley every bridge from the head of the stream down was swept away and will be a large expense on Miles township to have them rebuilt.

Prothonotary Shaffer who is visiting friends in the eastern portion of the state will be unable to reach home for some time.

At Bellefonte the water is said to have been higher than ever known and some damage was done, but the amount is insignificant when the reports from other places are received.

A wonderful hosiery sale going on now at the Cash Bazaar. Stop in and secure some bargains in ladies and misses black hose, on Springstreet.

Dunkle and Fortney's new grocery store on Allegheny street, is rapidly picking up trade. They keep nothing but the best and freshest goods in the market.

Prof. Geo. P. Bible and family visited friends in this section the past week. They were detained here for several days by the high water. As their home was submerged at Lock Haven, they were very anxious to get there.

The largest and most complete line of suitings is now on exhibition on our counters that have ever been shown by us. Suits made to order at the lowest prices, MONTGOMERY & Co., Tailors.

On Tuesday morning Post Master Dobbins had Bellefonte mail going east taken to Lewistown by a special conveyance and will continue to send and receive mail that way until better facilities are afforded.

Below Coburn G. Rickers house and all outbuildings were carried down stream and all that was saved was a bit of furniture and clothing. Across the creek was the house of Joseph Cantner, the buildings were recently erected and everything was washed away.

On Monday morning landlord Brandon, S. H. Williams and Capt. Amos Mullen started for Johnstown to see the ruins. Mr. Brandon has a sister living there and feared that she might be among the missing. Tuesday morning a dispatch was received from Mr. Brandon at Tyrone, stating that he had heard from his sister.

In Haines township, Mr. George Winklebleck and family had a narrow escape. They lived in a frame house along Pine creek. Their house was washed away and Mr. Winklebleck floated down stream on a part of a roof. It struck a tree and he crawled up in the branches and remained there until the next morning. Mrs. Winklebleck and children clung to drift wood and were carried to the opposite side of the stream where they managed to get ashore.

Bailey of the News remarks that the CENTRE DEMOCRAT wants to maintain that milk and water condition, termed new-normal, on the Amendment. We do not think it necessary to define our position; but if we made as poor and weak attempt to advocate the temperance cause as Bailey would come to the conclusion that we missed our calling. The help you render the cause consists in what you never wrote, while your attempts disgust the average voter and furnishes amusement for the readers. To accept your sympathy would be like receiving bread from a starving man.

On the banks of Fishing creek in Clinton county, was the home of a gentleman and his wife by the name of Dunkle. When they retired on Friday night the creek was much swollen but they did not apprehend any danger. About 3 o'clock a. m. Saturday the roar of the flood became so terrific that Mr. Dunkle became frightened for their safety and told his wife to get ready to leave. In a very few moments the house moved from its foundations and almost immediately collapsed. Mr. Dunkle grasped his wife in one arm, and entirely by accident came in contact with a portion of the roof upon which he climbed pulling Mrs. Dunkle after him. Upon this frail raft they were carried down the stream in the darkness for a distance of about two and one-half miles when they came in violent contact with a dwelling house in the track of the flood. Mr. Dunkle instantly threw out his arm which came in contact with a second story window, which fell in and he and his wife crashed in and were saved the building not being moved by the stream.

A DISASTROUS FLOOD

SWEEPS OVER PARTS OF CENTRE COUNTY.

Many Lives Lost and Great Damage Done—Houses, Barns, Railroads and County Bridges Swept Away—Some of the Losers.

In our county, the effect of the heavy rains, which poured down in torrents from Thursday evening until Saturday morning, was disastrous. From every quarter come the reports of floods which for miles deluged whole valleys, and spread death and destruction in its path, in some cases leaving only barren wastes where once there were fine and fertile fields and happy homes. In the low lands and along the water courses the principal damage was done, as whole districts were submerged and almost everything swept away by the fierce waters. The original channels of many streams have been filled up with rubbish and the waters have taken new courses. Throughout Bald Eagle valley the streams were higher than ever known, and old citizens tell us it was more destructive than the great flood of 1865, the traces of which in some places are still left. Nearly every county bridge and railroad bridge was swept away by the fury of the water while the destruction to property cannot be estimated and is beyond all conception.

In the lower and eastern portion the county, through Brush and Pennsvals, there is a similar state of affairs: waste and ruin along the course of the streams are left to tell the sad tale and can give but a faint idea of its reality. The high water came in the middle of the night and gave them but a few moments to escape with their lives. In some cases families lost everything except the scant clothing on their persons, who now are without food and destitute and in want.

MILLHEIM AND COBURN.

On Saturday morning the intelligence was received by wire at Bellefonte that these towns had been visited by a disastrous flood resulting in the loss of several lives and great destruction of property. This report was followed by others of a similar character. In order that the true story might be given to our readers we arrived on the scene early on Sunday morning and found the reports verified.

In order to give an idea of the extent of the flood will give a short description of streams and the outline of the country drained by them.

Elk Creek rises in the extreme eastern end of Brushvalley and flows westward to Centre Mills, where it takes a southern course through a gap of Brush mountain, passes through Millheim into Pennsvalley. It drains Brush valley for over ten miles and then unites with Pine creek south of Millheim and continues westward towards Coburn for about two miles, where it joins Penns creek. Pine creek rises in the eastern end of Pennsvalley above Woodward for about ten miles until it meets Elk creek above Coburn.

THE STORM.

There were heavy rains from Thursday evening until Saturday morning, but it is evident that in this section it was much heavier than in the western portion of the county. In driving from Centre Hall, Sunday morning, could see very few traces of very heavy rains or high waters; but near Millheim could see gulleys in the fields and in my wash-outs along the road.

In conversation with Mr. Clark Granley, of near Rebersburg, was told that the rain on Friday evening was terrific. For several hours it came down in torrents; it was a constant flow, which continued for hours—it seemed as though the sky unboomed itself over that section. The hillsides were covered with a mass of flowing water several inches in depth, the small streams and rivulets were swollen into raging torrents which submerged meadows and swept everything away in their course and increased in volume until lost in the main stream. From others we learned the same thing and are of the opinion that it was a genuine waterspout. Through Brushvalley, was told, every township bridge over Elk creek was swept away and that all fences and buildings near the stream were carried off.

DAMAGE IN BRUSHVALLEY.

The report was also received that every mill-dam was broken from the head of Elk Creek, in their order would be Walker's saw and grist mill-dam, near Wolf's store; Sholls saw-mill dam; Daniel Weaver's grist and saw-mill dam, with several sheds, outbuildings and cattle; Henry Meyer's grist and saw mill-dam, with stable, wash house, wagon-shed, horse, buggy, implements and other stock; Wm. Meyer's grist mill-dam at Centre Mills, with other outbuildings. Through this section many farmers had their hog-pens swept down the stream and the hogs that were not drowned were carried down by the force of the stream below Millheim where they lodged in driftwood, on the roofs of buildings and in houses. At Centre Mills the stream enters a narrow gap, which is wide enough only at some places for the creek and the turnpike.

Nathan Hough's steam saw mill and lumber operations at the head of the valley were swept away and his loss

will amount to several thousand dollars. At the entrance of the gap a carpenter shop with tools, and other outbuildings of Chas. Grimes was swept away and considerable damage was done to his property.

The waters through this gap were confined by the sides of the mountain and were turned into a foaming torrent. Large rocks were carried down stream, deep cuts and wash outs were made, trees were twisted from their roots. The road bed which was considered the finest drive in that section was completely torn up and dug out and at points covered up with banks of rock and earth, while at other points long drifts of trees, timber and rubbish many feet in height cover the road and will render it impassable for several weeks.

In this gap were two dams. The first owned by Jacob and Philip Gephart, brothers, was broken, the dwelling-house, stable, cider press, outbuildings, logs and lumber were carried away. Their loss is estimated at about \$6000.

Next came Campbell's grist mill. The dam was broken at one end and part of the foundation washed from under the mill. The building is standing on a slant and is liable to topple over. The mill is ruined and cannot be repaired. The loss will be about \$3000.

AT MILLHEIM.

The destruction at this point was the greatest. The breaking of the large dams along Elk Creek spent its force upon Millheim with dreadful effect and destruction.

Friday evening the creek was high but no one feared that there would be any damage. At about midnight the water began to rise and soon flooded the town. Andy Walizer was one of the first to give the alarm and awaken the people. Nevin Auman and Geo. Comings went from house to house and in a short time everybody was up. The water flooded the cellars and then rose to the first floor and in the houses near the creek it was several feet in depth on the first floor, some managed to remove carpet and furniture. Rafts were constructed and people were taken from houses that were threatened. The force of the stream increased and fences and outbuildings, porches boardwalks and everything that was loose was swept down stream. Along Main street the water backed up to Eisenhuth's drug store and at some places was swift and deep. Most all the dwelling houses from that point down to the bridge had several feet of water in the first story and sustained from \$300 to \$500 damage each. In some instances doors were broken open by floating timber, which passed through, the water taking everything along. The bridge leading to Aaronburg was taken. Eisenhuth's drug store had the contents of the cellar ruined also goods under counters and in the drawers. All gardens and yards and streets in this part of the town were washed away leaving only a mass of rocks. The street was cut up and washed away several feet in depth. The water covered all the lots on Water street several feet doing considerable damage.

Musser's grist mill dam was broken, their meadow and orchard ruined and other damages which will amount to about \$5000.

The foundry dam, foundry operated by Dennis Luse, with all machinery and tools were swept away leaving no trace behind. Loss estimated at \$3000.

LIVES IN DANGER.

In the lower part of Millheim three dwelling houses stood close to the creek and their occupants passed through a night which they will not soon forget. The first was a two story frame dwelling with kitchen attached; the force of the stream broke the main building away and carried it down stream several hundred feet where it lodged. Mr. and Mrs. Wise Bollinger, the occupants, went into the kitchen and remained there until morning. At times they stood in water up to their necks and held their children above to save their lives also. The building raised several times and swayed to and fro but fortunately did not leave the foundation.

Harry Lamey's house, the next, was carried down stream and lodged against Samuel Weizer's house. Mr. and Mrs. Lamey left their building before it was carried away and by wading through water that was neck-deep managed to reach their stable, where they remained until morning standing in water when they were rescued. Mrs. Lamey has been sick, since, from the exposure and fright.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Weizer occupied their house until morning, not being able to leave. When the Lamey building struck it every timber quivered and they expected to be carried away any moment. Their building swayed constantly from the force of the stream. It was a terrible time. No one could assist them; they were at the mercy of the furious stream.

They were finally rescued in the morning. Mr. Weizer, who is a good natured fellow and of an easy and jovial disposition and a good bit of a wag, is a changed man since. He never was a deacon or a prayer elder in the church and never was in the habit of wearing a prayer meeting by long supplications and display of piety, but on this occasion he and his good wife went upon their knees and implored the Almighty to spare them, vowing then and there

to live a better life in the future if they would be saved. When they got tired praying they sang: "Pull for the shore" "Rescue the perishing" and other appropriate verses, until morning. Mr. Weizer believed that their prayers were answered and intends to be true to his promise.

It is impossible to give a fair description of the ruin, waste and destruction that Millheim suffered; there is nothing but rubbish, drift, mud, lumber, barrels, carpet, furniture, dishes and all sorts of truck scattered in the path of the water. Below Main street, along the creek, most all the gardens, barns, outbuildings and fences are destroyed. Wagons, farming implements, etc., are scattered along the shore, or lodged against a tree, or were taken down into the meadow below the town—where enough things could be found to start a curiosity shop.

J. B. Reifsnyder estimates that the damage done to Millheim will exceed \$30,000.

MILLHEIM TO COBURN.

The pike co. had every bridge leading to Coburn swept away and the road-bed many places is washed over leaving only the bare rocks, at other places no trace is left. Below the toll-gate the creek tore away the bank and at some places walking room only is left. Their property is almost a total wreck and will take weeks before travel will be resumed.

Following along the course of the stream the following damage was done: Michael Ulrich, near Millheim, lost barn, with wagon, implements, horse and two cows, and part of a slaughterhouse. Loss \$1,800.

All the meadows along the stream are cut up, soil carried away leaving only rocks on the surface. The destruction to the land will be heavy.

Henry Swartz, living 14 miles below, sustained a heavy loss. A large bank barn, built recently, with all contents, 2 horses, 6 cows and other live stock was carried down stream. The building was broken in to a thousand fragments and all the contents are lost. Mr. Swartz's dam was broken and other outbuildings were carried away.

Mr. Swartz and his family were imprisoned in their house from Friday evening until Sunday afternoon. All their outbuildings were taken and their house was expected to go any moment but fortunately for the inmates withstood the force of the current. Mr. Swartz's loss will be over \$4000.

Reed Alexander had a hog pen swept away and other damage which will amount to about \$800.

At Michael Evert's a large bank barn was carried down 200 yards and landed in the middle of the road. One horse and two cows were drowned. His loss will be about \$1500.

ALONG PINE CREEK.

The estimate of the damage along this stream was gathered from different persons, but will give a faint idea of its extent.

At Woodward, J. C. Motz's saw and grist mill dam was destroyed, the miller's residence and all household goods, two cows, other stock and outbuildings. Darius Luse, tenant on A Weaver's farm, lost a lot of hogs, six head of cattle and one colt.

Jacob Stover had outbuildings destroyed.

Cyrus and Philip Moyer had their dam washed away, lost several head of cattle, hogs, crop of corn, wagon shed and farm implements.

Dan Krater, tenant of Samuel Ard, lost 28 hogs, wagon shed with wagons and buggies, farm implements.

Jacob W. Moyer, dam broken and several small outbuildings gone.

At this point Elk and Pine creek unite and from here to Coburn the water must have raised fifteen feet. The pike along this section is completely washed away at many places.

In the woods along the stream all the trees are barked fifteen-feet or more, moss hay and rubbish hanging on the branches indicate the height of the water.

FOUR LIVES LOST AT COBURN.

At about 3 a. m., Saturday morning the high water was first noticed at Coburn everything was quiet and few people were aware that their buildings were being submerged.

Mr. W. H. Kreamer, station agent, was awakened at 3 o'clock by his wife who said she heard someone rapping at their front door. Mr. Kreamer heard it also, and went down immediately in his night clothes to see who was there. When he reached first floor he landed in a foot of water, the family was aroused and had to carry them out on his back through three feet of water to higher ground. Another man heard his dog barking for some time, he got angry and started down to kick hal-lelujah out of the kerr, when he stepped out in the yard found the poor brute in several feet of water and at the end of the chain.

Mr. A. J. Campbell noticed the water at about the same time and started through the town to arouse the people. So rapidly did it rise that nearly every house had several feet of water on the first floor before they could get away. It is estimated that the water rose over ten feet in less than a half an hour. They feared that the buildings

CONTINUED ON EDITORIAL PAGE.

SIMON LOEB'S NEW STORE,

BELLEFONTE, PENNA.

TO MY FRIENDS and CUSTOMERS:

Having opened an exclusive Clothing and Furnishing Goods Store for Men, Boys and Children, I am now fully prepared to show you the most complete line of Clothing, comprising the latest styles and novelties at such low prices that will astonish you; also, the latest styles of Hats and Neckwear, a full line of Shirts, Collars, Cuffs, Underwear, etc.

A cordial invitation is extended to all my old friends and customers and others to visit my new store and examine Goods and Prices.

With many thanks for past favors and soliciting a continuance of the same, I remain

Yours Respectfully, SIMON LOEB, Bellefonte, April, '89.

BROCKERHOFF ROW. IN ROOM FORMERLY OCCUPIED BY MONTGOMERY & CO.

MINGLE'S SHOE STORE

We Handle Reliable Goods Only. Custom Work, A Specialty. Our New Spring Fit of Ladies and Gent's Shoes and Gaiters for Spring and Summer wear is being unpacked and comprises many new and attractive Styles that will be worn. Can show you some big Bargains. Prices lower than ever.

BELLEFONTE, PA.

YOU CAN SAVE

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25 Per Cent.

BY VISITING THE

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