

The Grand Jury beg leave to remind the Commissioners that the yard in front of the Court House is in a very shabby condition, and is being used as a play ground, disfigured by pitching quoits and we are also informed that the Court House has been granted for holding exhibitions, band meetings, etc., which we disapprove, as this is a MISUSE OF THE PUBLIC BUILDINGS.

LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

An Epitaph.

Little Johnny Day lies here, He neither cries nor frets; He just had reached his 13th year—Cigaretts.

—Boots—Mingle's—Shoes.

—The DEMOCRAT 15 cents for the campaign.

—Zellers, the druggist, is moving into his new room this week.

—Robt. Hunter is attending the Union county fair this week.

—Band festival at Milesburg, on Saturday evening, of this week.

—Clothing men and coal merchants welcome the cold weather.

—The curb stone market is slowly dwindling down as the cold weather approaches.

—The first frost of the season was felt one morning this week. We failed to feel it, only heard of it.

—Dunkle & Fortney's grocery store keeps up with the trade as it always has the best and freshest goods in stock.

—A game of base ball will be played on Saturday afternoon between the "Nailers" and "Feeders" of the nail works.

—Mr. John Smith of Punxsutawney, was in town on Monday being on his way to Pine Grove Mills to visit his parents.

—It is just astonishing to see the large list of new subscribers entered on our list this week. We are slowly but surely getting there.

—Geo. Condo, a son of Mich Condo had his arm broken while turning a crank of the "merry-go-around" at the picnic last week.

—Daniel Dubbs, of Rebersburg, aged 78; Jessie Moore, of Boalsburg, 78, and George W. Stiver of Stormstown, 70, are recent deaths in Centre county.

—An infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Corney Garman aged about twelve months died on Monday evening and was buried on Tuesday afternoon.

—Captain Austin Curtin of the Huntingdon Reformatory (not an inmate but a superintendent) was in Bellefonte last Saturday shaking hands with friends and acquaintances.

—Weddings will be plenty in this section during the next two months. It must be sort of contagious and single folks are liable to be affected. At this writing no less than six weddings are on the tapis.

—A. Sternberg can now be found at Simon Lobe's clothing store where he is permanently engaged as salesmen. "Sterny" is a first class man in that business and can give customers what they need in the line of clothing.

—Editor T. H. Harter, of the Middleburg Post, was in Bellefonte last Friday and paid our office a visit. He edits a lively paper and writes some spicy letters in Pennsylvania Dutch which has given him quite a reputation.

—On next Sabbath morning the new Evangelical church at Spring Mills will be dedicated. The sermon in the morning will be delivered by Rev. West, of Harrisburg, Pa. Prof. Goble, of the Central Pennsylvania College, of New Berlin will preach in the evening.

—Captain Henry Grow, of near Kylertown, Clearfield county, Friday morning stepped on the track of the Beech Creek railroad, near Beaver run bridge, and was struck by the engine of the Phillipsburg train and instantly killed. Deceased had recently known symptoms of insanity.

—The Methodist Church which has been undergoing repairs the past summer will be finished this week and will be opened for worship next Sunday morning. Rev. Geo. E. Reed, D. D. L. L. D., President of Dickinson College, will occupy the pulpit morning and evening. A most cordial invitation is extended to the friends of the church to join the congregation in holy worship on sabbath next.

—Dr. Wengert and father, of Phillipsburg, left for Philad. for Polylinic Hospital, where Dr. Mills will perform the operation of terpanning Dr. Wengert's skull to discover the abscess on his brain, which is supposed to be the cause of Dr. Wengert's brain trouble. It is a dangerous operation but it is the last return and we hope may be successful and resort the patient to perfect health. He is almost blind, but is sensible of his condition and says the operation will be a great risk; but he is prepared to accept the result whatever it may be.

TRAGEDY AT PHILIPSBURG.

SEELY HOPKINS KILLS HIS WIFE AND MOTHER-IN-LAW.

On last Sunday morning and then tries to Commit Suicide by Shooting Himself twice in the Head.—Jealous of his wife.—A worthless husband.—Had been arrested for abusing his wife.—The deed planned before hand.

On last Sunday morning the citizens of Phillipsburg were startled by the report of pistol shots and soon after were horrified to find that they had been fatal missiles causing the death of a young wife and her mother, while the desperate fiend and husband was fatally wounded in trying to put an end to his own existence.

Seely Hopkins, a carpenter by trade, was the perpetrator of this tripple tragedy. He came to Phillipsburg several years ago and married Miss Maggie Wighamman, a most estimable young lady and highly respected in that community. Their marriage was not a happy one as frequent quarrels arose and their home life was one of constant turmoil. The husband, it is said, was a worthless character and never supported his wife as a husband should. He frequently got drunk and in that condition came home and beat his wife most shamefully. About a week before the tragedy he was arrested for abusing his wife and was held over for appearance at court. At the solicitation of his wife he was allowed to go in search of bail, they supposing that he would leave the town and never return. He left but returned one week later, on last Saturday evening with the expressed purpose of murdering the two women and putting an end to his own life, in which he was not quite as successful.

The following taken from the Phillipsburg Daily Herald gives a full account of the tragedy:

It is evident from the statement made and evidence adduced that jealousy is the sole cause of this awful end of the murdered ones. The intoxicating drink is a great factor in this as in most cases of a similar character.

For sometime past a kind of cat and dog life has been lived by the murderer, W. Seely Hopkins and his wife Maggie, and when in liquor, fights have frequently ensued. He was under arrest for assault and battery, and waving a hearing was committed to Bellefonte, hoping, to be able to get bail, and for that purpose was allowed out of custody, in order to procure it, but failed. On several occasions he had expressed his intention of shooting his wife and others and as late as Thursday last stated to Dr. Pierce his determination to commit the foul deed; the latter doing his utmost to allay the awful state of mind he was in. On Friday last he went to Houtzdale, having relatives there, but before leaving he wrote the following letter which was found on his person.

Phillipsburg, Sept. 20, '89

I no people of Phillipsburg have bin Good Friends to me since I have bin here. I thank them all for thare kindness. I cant get bale, they are the fault of it of course I wont let every one have my wife as they please and me in jail We had better dye first, I always loved Maggie but she would have others. While I have bin here I wish I could have met E-H and E Keldricks, a cracker agent I would have filled them so full of Lead, D— their cursed harts, I wish this to be published I wish my body to be sent.

P. S. Send Word to my Brother Bert Hopkins, 27 Stone St. Rochester, N. Y. It is evident that his visit to Houtzdale did not in any way allay his anger for while there he wrote the following which we have permission to print from the prisoner himself.

Houtzdale, Sep., 21, '89

I have written many statements on What I am a going to do, but most of the People in Phillipsburg say that I have Bin Hounded to get me out of the way. So E-H and Dear E-G—the cracker agent, can have their way. They have used my Wife Maggie as theirs. I love her to idolltry and these men can never have their satisfaction again. I will Die.

I want this distinctly understood. I want my body sent to Rochester to Birt Hopkins, 27 Stone St. Rochester, N. Y.

You can see the rest Good By all.

Saturday Sep., 21, '89.

I am in Osceola now on my way. Who ever comes in my way when I meet Maggie and interfers will go down with her.

W. S. H.

Saturday, Sep., 21, '89.

Houtzdale To night is my time if every thing is all right Mind my word, I want my body sent home Just as I fall.

HOME—I will give you all Good By. P. S. I wish old Emaline Clarkson and Ether Wighamman Will Dye By inches they are the cause of My Wife doing what she does, they are both old strays.

I hate to do a crime like this but they have hounded me around till I am stirred to it.

His statement to us is that he left Houtzdale between ten and eleven o'clock on Saturday night reaching Phillipsburg as near as he could tell about one a. m. He then made for the house situated on Second street, forcing his way through the cellar window to await his opportunity. He stated that he procured a pint of whiskey at one of the hotels at Houtzdale before leaving and being under the effects of the liquor possibly slept until the morning. His wife had been in the

cellar during the morning, but did not see him hiding.

About ten o'clock as the peaceable citizens were on their way to their respective places of worship, he came out of his hiding place in the cellar to the kitchen where his wife was busily engaged washing the dishes used at the breakfast meal. Mrs. Hopkins was at first alarmed on his appearance in that way, but when he went to her, placing his arms around her, she reproached him in anything but polite language and told him to "get out of this." He immediately drew the revolver, which is known as an "English bulldog," and fired. The shot, however, missed her and he fired a second, which penetrated her skull, causing death in a few minutes. On hearing some one upstairs he rushed through the sitting room and on seeing his mother-in-law fired the revolver, the shot striking her under the chin and went through her head. She rushed back into a room and fell to the floor, Hopkins pursuing her and fired another shot through her head, killing her almost instantly. He then ran out of the house and made for Andy Allport's livery stable, in front of which he shot himself twice in the head, falling to the ground, but still remaining conscious. He was arrested by Samuel Rhule, taken to the lock-up and his wounds dressed.

Coroner Laporte was summoned, and a jury empanelled, consisting of G. E. Parker, foreman, R. McClintic, H. S. Stuart, George Hartscock, M. B. Hysong and Robert Musser. The bodies were then viewed and the jury then adjourned.

Statement of Cele Hopkins, made to J. M. Click, on Sunday.

I left Houtzdale on Saturday night about 11 o'clock p. m., walked down the railroad until I came to R. B. Wigmans' brick yard where I left the railroad and took the board walk to Phillipsburg. Went up Maple St., to Second St., then down Second St., to Rose Prines and went into the ally and then into the back of the house. I broke in the window of the cellar and laid on the bank in the cellar all night. I could not sleep; heard them get up, (meaning Mrs. Wighamman and my wife); waited a while and then went up steps that lead from the cellar to the kitchen, but before going up took off my shoes so that they could not hear me. When I got in the kitchen my wife was washing the dishes. I walked up to her and put my arm around her and she said "you s— of a b—! get out." I drew my revolver and she saw it and said "Oh! Cele don't." I fired at her head when she screamed; I fired another and she fell. I did not see whether she was dead or not. I then went up stairs and saw the old woman at the head of the stairs, I fired at her—she turned in the room, I followed her in, she was lying on the floor and begged of me not to shoot her. I turned around and shot her in the head again and then went down the stairs and out of the back door to Allports' livery stable. There I TRIED TO KILL MYSELF.

I fired two shots, the first did not knock me down, but the second did. Thought I had one more shot, but had not, or I would have died with them. I gave my revolver to Mr. Eckridge of the Telephone Company, of Osceola, on Wednesday so that it would not be found on me if I was arrested. I did not see the revolver again until Friday. I sent Charles Humphery for it from Wm. Fergusons' livery stable. I staid at the stable until he came back. The revolver is a seven-shooter, but had only six shots in it. This morning I had two cartridges of my own and Charles Humphery gave me four and that made six. I got the revolver from a gun dealer opposite the Reynold's arcade, Rochester, N. Y., when I was home, the price was \$3.50, but it did not cost me anything. The party told me he would make me a present of the revolver. I am well acquainted with the party from whom I got the revolver. I also got nine cartridges with the revolver, I fired two of them and Wm. Ferguson fired seven which I got with the revolver, that caused me to get the other cartridges from Humphery. The revolver is a British bull dog.

I did not break the lock off the door yesterday after I shot Mrs. Wighamman on the stairs. I did that some time ago. Maggie went in there to sleep one night and I wanted her to sleep with me, which she did after I broke the lock off the door.

The coroner's inquiry was resumed on Monday before District-Attorney Meyers, at the Public Building, when the witnesses were called, testifying as follows: The testimony of Jackson Gorton explains fully the reason Hopkins was released from the lock-up, the week before.

A. Jackson Gorton—said: I took Hopkins to Squire Duncan; admitted that he had choked his wife. I arrested him; he said he could furnish bail. He went out to look up bail, but did not succeed. Squire made out a commitment and brought it to me. I went to see Mrs. Wighamman and his wife and they said they didn't want to prosecute and didn't want to see him go to jail and said that if he would go away and stay, that was all she wanted. I said I would take him over if they would

furnish money, but they would not do that as they did not want to go to court at all. After that they went away and I then went to the house to see the wife; she said she would go and see her attorney and hear what he says. Mr. Bryson. They started for Mr. Bryson's office. I went up after awhile, and I was called in. She had advised him to go to Houtzdale; that perhaps he would run off and stay away and not bother her any more as it was not worth while going to court on her part. I came up and told him I thought he would have to go to Bellefonte. He said "if you let me go I will get," and I did not see him after that.

Dorey Myers—on being sworn said: Maggie Hopkins is my niece, and Esther Wighamman my sister. I was at the Passmore House when I was told Hopkins had shot himself, went to where they live, saw Maggie on the floor. Went up stairs to my sister, and found her breathing, she died while I was present. My niece was 21 last July, and was married to Hopkins about two years. There are no children. I made the information. Have frequently heard threats made by Hopkins within the past six months, that he would kill both women, meaning his wife and mother-in-law.

Mrs. Lottie Flegal—said: I live in this borough, near where the family was shot and where the prisoner shot himself, am married, my husband's name is Summerfield Flegal. I was at home yesterday morning, I saw Hopkins during the shooting, I heard a shot fired from my own house and thought it a strange occurrence on a Sabbath morning about 10 o'clock, I ran through to back kitchen where the sound came from, and on putting my head through the window, saw Seely Hopkins who appeared very nervous, almost idiotic. On seeing him try to shoot himself I said "don't shoot yourself, don't take your own life;" I did not hear any reply; I called to some men to come to him but they went the other way, I did not recognize any one around. While I was talking to him heard the pistol click heard the last shot and saw him fall. Have known the wife from a child, but not to have conversation with her. I went to the house, Mrs. Hopkins was lying by the sink in the kitchen dead; I saw the body of Mrs. Wighamman upstairs, on the second story, and she looked worse than Maggie, but saw no signs of life.

Blanch Myers—said: Am the wife of Dorey Myers, and have known Mrs. Hopkins ten years, and Mr. Hopkins only principally since his marriage. I lived with them in the same lot. Seely Hopkins was living with his wife's mother. I was the second in attendance. My little girl, ten years of age, heard the shots and said, "Mama, Seely has shot himself." I ran down to Mrs. Wighamman's house and his wife was on the floor. I went up to her and felt her pulse and found her bleeding and I exclaimed, "Oh, Maggie, are you dead? It happened about church time in the morning. She died while I was present but could not speak. I ran up stairs and found her mother cold and dead. He threatened to kill the mother and wife a half dozen times in my hearing, the last threat being made about four weeks since. There were frequent quarrels between them. She wanted to go to housekeeping but he never would do it. She was at my house only five minutes before the murder and I told her it was reported he was in Phillipsburg; that he had come on by freight on Saturday and I urged her to look out for him. She appeared frightened at it, but had more fear for her mother. She never believed he would shoot her, but her mother. Frank Nelson said he was coming on freight from Houtzdale.

Question by Squire Laporte: Do you remember any difficulty about three weeks ago, and had again made it up?

Yes, Mr. Gorton came up to ask her mother to come to Squire Laporte's office. She dressed to go, but in the mean time he (Hopkins) had come down from the office and said, "For God's sake don't go up there to expose me; I'll behave myself and build the porch and fences. Mother, you make Maggie stay at home. She then said, "Maggie, don't you go out and Seely says he will reform and behave himself." He always said he would shoot both of them, and when told he would hang, said he didn't care.

Samuel Rhule—said: I heard a shot fired, arriving at the second shot and saw Mr. Hopkins. I ran over to him and picked him up and took him to Mr. Allport's stables. He was bleeding very much in the head when Dr. Pierce came along. I got him some water and washed off the blood, and then brought Hopkins to the lockup. I am a special officer. He said he had shot his wife and another one. A gentleman handed me a revolver which has six empty shell, I have examined it and find it a British bulldog, 38 long, found in it six empty cartridges and one empty chamber. I saw the revolver laying by the side of Mr. Hopkins when I picked him up. He said Ed. Hughes couldn't have his wife and that was the reason he shot her. He gave no reason for shooting his mother-in-law.

District J. C. Meyer and Sheriff Cook went over to Phillipsburg early on Monday morning for the purpose of taking testimony and bringing the prisoner to Bellefonte. They returned in the even-

ing without Hopkins as his wounds in the scalp were of a serious nature and would likely cause his death. The second shot he fired at his own head grooved the skull bone and crushed it, which the physician says has caused the blood to gather in clots under the fracture and presses upon the brain. This was evident on Monday as the wounded man became feverish and later in the day his left side became paralyzed and his condition was considered doubtful.

He is perfectly rational and gives a full and complete statement of the shooting without showing the least signs of remorse for the terrible deed. His only regret is that he did not succeed in putting an end to his own life also.

After the news of the murder was known throughout town the sentiment of the public was to string him up and make him suffer the penalty prescribed by the law. The better judgement of the people prevailed and if he should recover his deserts will be meted out to him.

The funeral of the two murdered women took place on Tuesday afternoon and was largely attended.

As we go to press Hopkins condition was some better and may recover.

Fire at Centre Hall

At about midnight last Friday night two loud explosions were heard that started the people in Centre Hall from their beds. Soon after the alarm of fire was given and the store room of Dale & Co., across the street to the North from the hotel, was found in flames. The explosion broke the windows and door which gave the fire a good draft and the building was doomed. Close to this building was the Durst residence which was in great danger, but through the untiring efforts of the citizens was finally saved. The loss of Dale & Co. is about \$2,000 which was covered by insurance. The store building was worth about \$1,200. This is the second time the building was on fire and many suspect it to be the work of an incendiary.

The Jewish Holidays.

The Jewish people properly observe the 29th of this month and the 5th proximo, each being a holiday of no little importance in their calendar. At sundown on the eve of the 29th of September, or more explicitly, in the evening of the 29th, opens the Jewish new year 5650. There are very interesting services connected with the observance of this day which will be indulged in throughout the globe. October 5th is Atonement Day, also held very sacred by the Hebrew.

German-Maitland.

The invitations for the wedding of Miss Minnie B. Garman and Mr. Isaac B. Maitland, at the residence of Mr. Daniel Garman, Thursday evening, October 3rd., have been issued. Miss Minnie is a worthy young lady and is deserving of a noble and faithful companion, such as Mr. Maitland.

State Sabbath School Convention.

The twenty-fifth annual convention of the Pennsylvania State Sabbath school association will be held in the Second Presbyterian church of Williamsport on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, October 8, 9 and 10. An excellent programme has been prepared and the convention is expected to be one of the best ever held in the state. Each county is entitled to elect six delegates, and each city of 10,000 inhabitants and over to six additional. All christian workers delegates or not will be welcome.

Williamsport Wins the Prize.

Positive information was received by the Gazette and Bulletin last night that Williamsport had secured the District Band Factory after a bitter contest between different cities. The factory will be located on Walnut street, the Main building 20x150 feet two stories high, and will employ between 60 and 75 skilled workmen. As many of the employees are not only high class workmen but skilled musicians our esteemed contemporary suggests the organization of a mammoth band that will excel any in the State.

Don't be Alarmed.

Subscribers who owe us large amounts on subscription will receive notice from an authorized collector to whom the accounts were given. We are in need of money and took this course to get what is due us.

WANTED SALESMEN to sell Nursery Stock. All Goods Warranted FIRST CLASS. Permanent pleasant profitable positions for the right men. Good salaries and expenses paid weekly. Liberal inducements to beginners. No previous experience necessary. Outfit free. Write for terms, giving age. CHARLES H. CHASE, Nurseryman, Rochester, N. Y. dec-25 Mention this Paper.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE

In the Orphans Court of Centre, co. In the matter of the estate of Ann Pietscher decd. The undersigned, an auditor appointed by said Court to hear and determine exceptions, if any, filed to the account of Jonathan Schenk, Trustee, appointed to make sale of the real estate of said decedent, and to make distribution of the balance in the hands of said account-act as well as the funds paid into the court on recognizance and among those entitled thereto, hereby gives notice that he will meet the parties in interest, for the purpose of his appointment at his office in Bellefonte, on Monday, Oct. 15, at 10 o'clock, a. m. when and where all parties in interest should appear. C. P. HEWES, Auditor. 3-4 oct-11

ORPHANS' COURT SALE

By virtue of an order of the Orphan's Court, of Centre county, there will be exposed at public sale at the Court House, in Bellefonte, on Saturday the 3rd day of October, 1889, at 10 o'clock, p. m. the following described real estate late the property of James D. Gordon decd. A farm or

TRACT OF LAND—situate in Spring township, adjoining lands of I. N. Gordon, Wm F. Reynolds and others CONTAINING 223 ACRES, more or less. Thereon erected a full set of farm buildings, and in good condition.

The property will be sold as a whole or in parts as may suit the convenience of purchaser. TERMS OF SALE—1/3 in cash, 1/3 in one year and the balance in two years. The deferred payment to bear interest from confirmation of sale and to be secured by bond and mortgage on the premises. I. N. GORDON, admr. of Jas. D. Gordon, decd. Orris Bower & Jarvis, Attys.

AGAIN THE ROCHESTER CLOTHING HOUSE

Asks your Attention for a few Moments.

You know what we have done in the past; come and see what we can do now. The coming season bids fair to be the largest that we have ever experienced, and we have made preparations accordingly.

You should see the goods piled on our counters and shelves—not a vacant space to be found. The goods that fill our store from one end to the other, are the first selections from the finest manufacturers in the United States. The style, fit make and quality of our Men's, Boy's, and Children's clothing is only surpassed by the immense assortment we can show you and the very low prices we have marked them.

Our line of Gent's Furnishing Goods, Hats, Caps, Trunks & Satchels, is by far the largest and most complete ever shown in Bellefonte. In fact there is nothing that Men, Boys or Children want for fall and winter wear that we do not have in largest variety and at the very lowest prices.

REMEMBER that our goods are all marked in plain figures, and anything bought of us, not perfectly satisfactory when taken home, if returned, money will be cheerfully refunded.

Yours Sincerely,

M. FAUBLE, PROPRIETOR.

REYNOLDS NEW BANK BUILDING, BELLEFONTE, PA.