



# The Centre Democrat.



CHAS. R. KURTZ, Ed. and Prop.

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## OIL AND GAS AT HOWARD

Discovered at a Depth of Only Sixty Feet.

### THE REPORT IS VERIFIED.

Found Two Miles North of Howard on Monday While Sinking a Well for Water—Further Investigation will be made—Property Owners are Considerably Interested over the Discovery.

The Lock Haven Democrat says: Curtin Wetzel states while digging a well on a farm about two miles above Howard last Friday, they struck a flow of gas. The flow was reduced as much as possible, when it shot into the air.

Further inquiries have elicited the fact that the well was being drilled for water on the farm of Solomon Tice, about two miles from Howard, on the north side of Bald Eagle creek. Mr. Wetzel first discovered the presence of gas by detecting a faint odor. Mrs. Tice, who was in the house, also noticed the smell and inquired if anything was burning. The water in the well bubbled violently. Mr. Wetzel capped the well, and when he removed the cap ten minutes later, gas issued from the opening, making a hissing sound. However, the flow was immediately exhausted. The cap was again screwed on and when removed again after a short interval the same result was obtained. When a lighted paper was held over the opening and the cap removed a bluish flame shot up in the air, but immediately died away. The well is fifty feet deep. Mr. Wetzel intended putting in the pump Monday, but has postponed action until further investigation is made. Mr. Wetzel states that the local indications for gas in the vicinity are very strong.

The above is correct, as a telephone inquiry to that place verifies the story. In addition to the gas, small quantities of oil were detected in the water. Since then nothing has been done at the well, but it is quite likely that the well will now be sunk to a considerable depth, in the hope of finding some quantities of gas and oil. There naturally is excitement among land owners in that region over this unexpected development.

### AN INTERESTING CASE.

Prosecution to Recover for the Killing of a Valuable Dog.

On Wednesday afternoon an interesting prosecution was heard before Justice Keichline. W. J. Stine, a young man who works at Scotia mines and rides a bicycle to and from his home daily, was recently bitten by a vicious dog as he rode by the residence of Miles Mattern, who lives near there. Complaint was made of the vicious dog to the owner. On May 25th, Stine, while passing this same place on his wheel, was attacked by a large English mastiff. He quickly dismounted and wound up the brute's career by a well directed shot from his revolver, while the dog was still in the road. Mr. Mattern kept this dog for breeding purposes and valued it at \$50, and brought suit to recover that amount from Stine. Testimony was adduced to show that the animal was vicious and had attacked other parties in the same manner, who likewise notified Mr. Mattern of this dangerous nuisance.

J. C. Meyer, Esq., ably defended Mr. Stine, while W. E. Gray, Esq., conducted the prosecution. From what we can learn at this writing the Justice is inclined to decide in favor of Mr. Mattern and thus favor the dog. It is hoped that this case will be carried through court as it involves an interesting and important point in which all wheelmen are concerned and their rights on the road, in such cases, may be clearly defined. The wheelmen in Centre county should give Mr. Stine all necessary assistance to prosecute this case, to see if wheelmen do not have the right of self defense and protection from vicious dogs, exactly as Mr. Stine employed, and thus abate a dangerous nuisance where owners are indifferent and their dogs are a common terror to travel in a community. Let the case be carried through court.

### More Suspensions.

Fifty-eight firemen on the Pittsburg division were indefinitely suspended on Monday. Seven engineers were reduced to firemen and seven regular engineers were reduced to extra engineers. It is expected, however, that they will resume their places about July 1, at which time an increased tonnage on the road is anticipated.

### A Case of Diphtheria.

On Saturday evening a six year old daughter of William Rider, of Coleville, died of this contagious disease. Interment was made that night at the Catholic cemetery. Mr. Rider, the father, is also very ill at present with typhoid fever.

### SHOT IN THE BREAST.

Harry Nevil, of Colver, Hurt in Mifflin County.

Harry Nevil, a son of Jacob Nevil, of Potter township, is lying in a dangerous condition at Yeagertown, Mifflin county, with a bullet in his left breast, and the chances for his recovery are very slim. There are several stories afloat of the shooting and no credence can be given any report. One is that Nevil was trading revolvers with a companion, and the weapon was accidentally discharged, the ball entering the left breast and through the lung.

Nevil is aged about thirty years and has born an unsavory reputation, having served a three-year term in the penitentiary for stealing a horse from Wm. Colver.—Reporter.

### Death at Wallace Run.

At Wallace Run, Pa., May, 24, 1897, William E., son of Charles Lucas, aged 30 years, 8 months and 19 days.

The funeral took place on Wednesday May 26, at 10 a. m., and was conducted by Rev. J. F. Kelley, assisted by Rev. C. C. Miller, pastor of the U. B. church, of Bellefonte, Pa.

About four months prior to his death William concluded to live a better life and was truly converted and united with the U. B. church, at Wallace Run, and was always found present in all religious exercises trying to learn more of the wisdom of Him who doeth all things well. The text preached was St. John, chapter 11 and 15th verse, "Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go that I may awake him out of sleep." When the reaper death thrusts in his scythe, and cuts down the aged and infirm, he does that which can only be expected, and which is naturally looked for; but when he suddenly cuts down a vigorous youth, he seems, to the human mind, to travel out of his natural course, and we sometimes stand amazed at the work of his resistless hand.

But such is Death, he is no respecter of persons, he regards not the state or condition of man. The high and the low, the rich and the poor, the parent and the child are alike subject to his power.

When the sad intelligence reached us, that William, the loving, bright and cheerful son of Charles Lucas was dead, we stood shocked at the news and said to ourselves, how dark and mysterious are the ways of Providence! How true it is that—

"God moves in a mysterious way His wonders to perform; He plants His footsteps in the sea, And rides upon the storm"

But God is all-wise; He makes no mistakes; what He does is always for the best. To us His designs may be dark and unfathomable, but—

"God is His own interpreter, And He will make it plain."

To his parents he was always respectful, loving and obedient. He was the sunshine of a happy Christian home, and were it not for the consolation of the Christian religion, how doubly sad would be that home to-day! His early death has saved him many of the ills and sorrows of a prolonged life on earth.

His bereaved father and friends can take to themselves, in his death, all those consoling passages, in God's word, which refer to those who have fallen asleep in Jesus.

Calmly and hopefully he approached the end of life's short journey, and with beatific vision crossed the river of death, and now he peacefully rests in hope as to his body, and in the joy as to his soul.

"Thou art a blessing to live, But greater to die; And the best of the world; Is in its paths to the sky."

On the third day after his death his body was laid to rest in the hope of a glorious resurrection. He leaves a wife, with whom he lived but eight weeks, an aged father, four brothers and three sisters. He has left the impress of his character upon the community's history. A community mourns his departure and the homes of her citizens are saddened by the loss of their staunchest friend. For his unselfish hospitality a generous people will ever cherish his name in grateful remembrance. On March 30th, 1897, he was married to Miss Annie Boop and peacefully lived with her till his death, and the loss of a true husband will be greatly mourned. The sympathy of the writer will be with the parent and friends during the bereavement.

### L. A. ZIEGLER.

### Happily Wedded.

Miss Maggie Miller, daughter of Sam'l Miller, of Coleville, and Mr. George Justice, son of Samuel Justice, of Morris-town, were married Tuesday evening at the United Brethren parsonage this place. Rev. C. C. Miller performed the ceremony.

### Died at Lock Haven.

Mrs. Elizabeth Schroeder, aged 75 years, and born at Bagleyville, this county, died in Lock Haven on Tuesday night, May 25th. She had been ill only a week with grip.

## NEW ACT FOR TAX COLLECTORS

A Law in Which Tax Payers will be Interested.

### TIME EXTENDED ONE YEAR.

All Tax Collectors Whose Terms Expire during the year 1897—Authority revived and Extended—Recently Signed by the Governor.

The Prothonotary has received the new law signed by the governor for the relief of the different tax collectors of the commonwealth. As it is of interest to every township and borough in the county, it is published below in full.

It provides "That in all cases in which the period of two years, the limitation of the warrants in the duplicate of county, city, township, ward, school and borough tax collectors have expired, in all cases where the power and authority of said tax collectors has expired or shall expire during the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven, by virtue of the expiration of their term of office, and said collector or collectors have or shall become liable for the amount of tax on said duplicates without having collected the same, the said duplicates and warrants, and the powers and authority of said tax collectors in all such cases are hereby revived and extended for a period of one year from the passage of this act, and said collector or collectors are hereby authorized and empowered to proceed and collect said taxes from all persons who have not paid taxes assessed to them residing in the district within which it may have been assessed, as well as all persons who removed from said city, ward, township or boroughs, and have neglected to pay as aforesaid assessed with like effect as if said warrants had not expired by the limitation of two years as aforesaid or the term of office of said tax collector had not expired.

Provided, that the provisions of this act shall not apply to warrants issued prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety, and that nothing contained in this shall release any bondsman or security.

### Pennsylvania to Build 65 Engines.

Orders have been issued for the Pennsylvania Railroad Machine Shops at Altoona to work 50 hours a week, and the Juniata shops 45 hours. Orders for 10 new class "P" passenger locomotives were placed with the machine shops today, and five were placed at the Juniata shops.

A prominent Pennsylvania Railroad official said: "We have decided to build 65 new locomotives at the Altoona shops during the remainder of the year 1897. This will keep all the departments on an easy working basis.

"I think the backbone of the period of depression is almost broken, and that an era of prosperity is dawning, at least in Altoona. Of course, the improvement must necessarily be slow, but I think when it does come it will be permanent."

### Another Cave in Nippenose.

Word comes from Nippenose valley to the effect that another cave has been found about one-fourth of a mile from the opening of the cavern recently discovered near Oriole. The second cave has not yet been explored.

Another exploration of the Oriole cave has been made. A raft was put in at the opening and came out at Sanderson's dam, three-eighths of a mile below. It is now known that there are fish in the cave, and two trout were caught in the stream. The cave is fifteen feet high and fifteen feet wide in many places, and there is talk of lighting it by electricity.

### Death of Mrs. David Lohr.

Charlotte Lohr, wife of David Lohr, whose home was on the mountain in Bener township, died very suddenly, with heart disease, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mechtley, at Snow Shoe, at 4 o'clock Tuesday morning 25th. She had been ill only a few hours previous to her death.

Deceased was 66 years old and is survived by five sons and three daughters, with their father. Her remains were brought to this place and taken on up to Meyer's cemetery, on Bellefonte Central train, Thursday evening for burial.

### Fine Music for Bucknell Commencement.

The famous First Brigade band, of Reading, better known as the Ringgold, consisting of forty men with Lieut. Joseph Winters as leader, will furnish the music at the commencement of Bucknell University, at Lewisburg, June 21st, 22nd and 23rd. Two twilight concerts have been planned on the 21st and 22nd, for which a stand will be erected on the college campus. The music this commencement promises to be one of the leading features and will undoubtedly draw large crowds.

### MRS. NANCY ANN BARGER.

Possibly the Oldest Woman in the State Well Preserved.

The other day Grit's correspondent found himself at Roland (Curtis works, Mrs. Nancy Ann Barger, the oldest person in the county if not in the State, resides here. She being in 107th year. She is enjoying fairly good health, and is still able to do her own household, her family consisting of herself and her 80-year-old son. She also cultivates her garden, which is one of the best in the neighborhood, and she walks without a cane. She is certainly a remarkable personage, and is in possession of all her faculties, except that for the last two years she can't hear as distinctly as formerly. She clearly remembers occurrences that took place 100 years ago, and recalls the trip which she made from Bedford to this place in a wagon at a very early date, telling the many days it took to make the trip, and the names of the places where she remained over night. Many people, both old and young, call to see "Aunt Nancy," who greets them all in a kindly and old-time hospitable manner.

### Mrs. Watson's Sad Plight.

The following is from the Grit of Saturday: For some time past Mrs. Green Watson, of Curtin township, has been greatly depressed in mind, bordering on dementia. A few days ago she loaned her husband one dollar. That fact she got to brooding over, and came to the conclusion that her husband would not return the dollar to her. She next came to the conclusion that life was not worth the living without the dollar. She then fastened a rope to a beam, and mounted a chair, and fastened the other end around her neck, and then kicked the chair from under herself. The noise made by the falling of the chair was heard by her husband and a neighbor, who were in the yard, and rushed into the house. One of them held her body up, while the other cut the body down, thereby saving the woman's life.

### Cheering Report.

Another cheering report was brought from the test well in Gallagher township, Clinton county, Friday. Within the last few days, when at a depth of over 3,100 feet, a sand was struck which contained a strong odor of oil. Shortly after another sand was struck which contained a stronger smell than the first. The sand, too, is so well saturated with the oil that its liquid-like character can be distinctly seen. It is believed that the well will be shot in a few days. From all the glowing reports sent out from this operation it is about time to strike something.

### Buildings Located.

On Monday Mr. A. G. Morris, of Tyrone, and his sons Chas. and Thomas took action in regard to the new Acetylene gas plant at this place. It will be located at their lime stone, operation in Armor's Gap north of town. The site was selected for the three principal buildings and we understand that work will be started at once on the buildings.

This enterprise will be a certainty as a good class of men are back of it and should prove quite a valuable addition to our community.

### Corner-Stone Laying.

At 2 o'clock this Thursday afternoon the corner stone of the new Disciple church at Howard will be laid with appropriate services. Rev. C. W. Harvey, of Plymouth, Pa., will preach the sermon and conduct the exercises. This will be the second Disciple church for that community. In this instance agitation seems to encourage religious enthusiasm. May it all be conducive for the spread of the Gospel.

### Locusts Due in 1906.

The impression prevails among many that this is the year for the appearance of the 17-year locusts in this section. Yony Deininger, of Centre Hall, who kept a record of the locust years, informs us that this is a mistake and that the locust year is due in 1906. When we think over it we believe Mr. Deininger is correct, as he is a careful observer.

### Pine Grove Park.

On Tuesday, June 22, if present arrangements are carried out, a new resort will be opened to the public. It will be along the line of the Bellefonte Central Railroad and at Pine Grove Mills. When opened to the public it will be known as Pine Grove Park. The Milesburg and Coleville bands, consolidated for the season of 1897, will hold a mammoth picnic there on that date.

### Fire Near Beech Creek.

A house near Beech Creek, occupied by Harry Rupert, and owned by D. W. Clark, was destroyed by fire on Monday evening 24th. The flames spread fast and only the household goods on the first floor were saved. The house was insured. No insurance on the household goods.

## MEMORIAL DAY EXERCISES

How the Event Was Observed in Bellefonte.

### APPROPRIATE PROGRAMME.

Hon. A. O. Furst and J. C. Meyer, Esq., Delivered Eloquent Addresses—Organizations in line of parade—Other Interesting News Paragraphed.

Memorial Day exercises in Bellefonte were appropriately observed on Saturday afternoon. The weather was anything but favorable, as a cold blustering wind made it unpleasant to be out for most people, but the attendance was quite large, many visitors being in town from the surrounding country. At 2 p. m., the parade formed in the following order and proceeded to the cemetery: Bellefonte band; carriages containing the orator of the day, Hon. A. O. Furst; Chaplain, James Harris, of the G. A. R., and J. C. Meyer, Esq., followed by Co. B, 5th Reg't, N. G. P.; Gregg Post, No. 95, G. A. R., and Patriotic Sons of America.

At the cemetery the usual exercises were conducted by Gregg Post, under the direction of David Bartley, commander. A quartette composed of Messrs C. C. Shuey, A. Lukenbach, Geo. L. Smith and Walter Whippen, sang very sweetly, and an earnest prayer was made by James Harris, chaplain of the Post.

The orator of the day was Hon. A. O. Furst. He delivered an eloquent and appropriate address that contained much that was of interest to his hearers and drew many valuable lessons from the observance of this day. His closing remarks to the memory of Hon. A. G. Curtin, dec'd, was a beautiful tribute to the departed statesman. J. C. Meyer, Esq., also delivered a brief address that abounded with patriotic allusions and noble sentiments, and was eagerly listened to throughout.

There was an abundance of floral contributions for the occasion and the entire programme was successfully carried out.

### Death of Andrew Howley.

Andrew C. Howley, the third son of Mr. and Mrs. John Howley, of East Bishop street, died Thursday evening, May 27th, at 5:30 o'clock. He had been ill for more than a year with consumption. He graduated from the Bellefonte High school in 1886; entered the employ of C. G. McMillen, then proprietor of the Brockerhoff House, as clerk. From Bellefonte he went with Mr. McMillen to Ohio where he remained several years.

Two brothers and three sisters survive him: Thomas F., William J., Ellie, Jennie and Mrs. Jas. McCafferty. He was 27 years old and unmarried.

The funeral services were held in St. John's Catholic church, Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

Andrew Howley was a young man of many estimable qualities and was highly esteemed in this community where he had many friends.

### Will Picnic at Hunters Park.

The Christian Endeavor and Epworth League societies of Buffalo Run valley will hold a joint picnic at Hunter's Park, on Saturday June 5th, and an attractive program is being arranged for the day. Among the speakers will be Dr. William A. Stephens, of Bellefonte; Rev. Chas. T. Aiken, of Pine Grove Mills; Rev. Ralph Illingworth, Warriorsmark; Rev. Robert Runyon, Stormstown, and others. Music will be furnished by the State College and Forest city bands and such amusements as base ball, boating, lawn tennis and croquet, will be furnished.

Societies from all along the line of the railroad have been invited and will be represented. Low fares will prevail.

From Pine Grove and return Bets. and Bets.

" State College	25	15
" Grayville	20	15
" Waddies and Briarly	20	10
" Pilmore	10	05
" Coleville	25	15
" Bellefonte	25	15

### Wetzel-Gerberich.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Gerberich, of north Thomas street, this place, have sent out invitations for the marriage of their daughter Ida E. and Louis C. Wetzel, which is to be solemnized, Wednesday, June ninth, at twelve o'clock. The wedding is to be a home affair with only the family and near friends of the bride and groom present. Mr. Wetzel is one of Bellefonte's energetic young business men, who conducts a prosperous bicycle store and machine shop.

### F. & M. Commencement.

The sixty-first annual commencement exercises of Franklin and Marshall College, at Lancaster Pa., will take place June 5th to the 10th. The Hon. James T. Eckels, Controller of the Currency, of Washington, D. C., will deliver the Biennial address before the literary societies on Tuesday June, the 8.

### CLOSING EXERCISES.

and 14th Annual Commencement Bellefonte High School.

On Wednesday afternoon the closing exercises occurred of the public schools of Bellefonte. Elaborate programs were prepared in the various departments for this occasion and were attended by many of our citizens. The work done by the pupils made a very creditable showing and instructors are deserving of much praise.

On Wednesday evening the Junior Declamatory Contest was held in Garmann's Opera House and it was filled to its utmost capacity. The stage was beautifully decorated with hunting and potted plants. The following programme was observed:

### DECLAMATORY CONTEST.

Music.....Invocation.....Music  
Recitation.....S. Elizabeth Faxon.  
"The Painter of Seville."  
Declamation.....William J. Dorworth.  
"The Black Horse and His Rider."  
Recitation.....Ida F. Fauble.  
"The Swan Song."  
Declamation.....J. Earl Aikens.  
"The Unknown Speaker."  
Music.....Orchestra  
Recitation.....Henrietta Wright  
"Absalom."  
Declamation.....Robert V. Lyon.  
"The Chariot Race."  
Recitation.....Daise Kelieline.  
"Nydia the Blind Girl of Pompeii."  
Music.....Orchestra  
Declamation.....Samuel McClure.  
"The Gladiator."  
Recitation.....Mary E. Bunkie.  
"Searching for the Grain."  
Declamation.....H. Albert Blair.  
"Death-bed of Benedict Arnold."

The judges were Messrs J. C. Meyer, Boyd A. Musser and John Blanchard. After a brief consultation their decision was announced awarding first prize to H. Albert Blair, and second to J. Earl Aikens. The speaking on this occasion was above the average work done on previous occasions and reflects much credit upon the class.

### COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES.

This afternoon, as we go to press, the Annual Commencement exercises are in progress. The attendance is unusually large and beyond the capacity of the building which evinces that our people take much interest in these exercises.

### COMMENCEMENT PROGRAMME:

Music.....Invocation.....Music  
Salutatory and Essay.....Alice Maud Harshberger.  
"Individual Growth a Factor in Civilization."  
Oration.....Charles H. Kase, Jr.  
"The Feast Seems Ready, Shall the Carving Begin."  
Essay.....Emma C. Wagner.  
"American Wonders."  
Oration.....Clarence G. Harper.  
"Common Carriers."  
Music.....Orchestra  
Essay.....Gertrude Taylor.  
"The Gem of the Pacific."  
Oration.....Alfred T. Irvyn.  
"Competitive Elements in Modern Life."  
Essay.....Mildred E. Wagner.  
"The Queen City of the Plains."  
Oration.....Alice M. Ishler.  
"Is It Right."  
Music.....Orchestra  
Oration.....Oliver Morton Smith.  
"Unsatisfied."  
Essay.....Myra S. Carson.  
"The New Woman."  
Oration.....J. Wallace Reeder.  
"The Price of Success."  
Music.....Orchestra  
Essay.....Grace M. Blackford.  
"Evils That Kill."  
Eulogy on Jefferson.....Joseph Y. Bunkie  
Essay.....M. Maud Miller.  
"The Man and the Occasion," and Valedictory.

### EVENING—8 P. M.

Music.....Orchestra  
Commencement Address.....Rev. J. M. Collett.  
Presentation of Certificates, David F. Ertzner, Esq., President of School Board.  
Music.....Benediction.

### John T. Reamy Dead.

John T. Reamy, who was seriously injured by the breaking of a scaffold in the round house on May 5 last, after lingering for nearly four weeks died Tuesday morning, at his home in Tyrone.

John Thomas Reamy was born in Centre county July 6, 1856, his age at death being 40 years, 10 months and 26 days. He was reared by his grand-mother at Houseville, and spent all his life in Centre county until he removed to Tyrone eleven years ago. On February 7, 1878, he was united in marriage to Miss Sallie Koch. One daughter Miss Nellie, of Bellefonte, survives this union. On October 13, 1882, at Pennsylvania Furnace, Mr. Reamy was married to Miss Ella M. Musser, who survives him, together with five children, Mary A., Edward M., Austin S., Nancy M. and Edith M., all at home. The mother of the deceased, Mrs. Matilda Rider, is also still living at Seneca, Michigan.

Mr. Reamy was a carpenter and had been in the employ of the Pennsylvania railroad for sixteen years. He resided at Unionville from 1883 to 1886, and in the latter year removed with his family to Tyrone where he has remained ever since. The funeral will take place Thursday afternoon. Interment in Tyrone cemetery.—Tyrone Herald.

### Treatment of a Bruise.

To prevent a bruise from becoming discolored, apply immediately water as hot as can be borne comfortably, changing the cloth as soon as it loses the heat. If hot water is not to be had at once, moisten some dry starch with cold water and cover the bruised part with it.