

A BRILLIANT CONFLAGRATION

The Atlantic Refining Co's Oil House Burned Down

HELD 18000 GALLONS OF OIL

A Gasoline Tank Explodes Violently—The Fire was of Incendiary Origin—4,000 Gallons of Oil Were Saved—Loss About \$2,000 Property of the Standard Oil Co.

Sunday evening Bellefonte had a novel fire, in the burning of the Atlantic Refining Company's building, along Spring creek, above Rhoad's coal yard. Next to this building stood a steam pumping station owned by the Bellefonte Furnace company, and it also was burned down. The alarm was sounded at about 8.30 Sunday evening while services were in progress at many of the churches. The fire companies quickly responded, but it was useless to try to save the plant which contained over 18,000 gallons of oil, gasoline, barrels of rosin and other highly inflammable material. They turned their attention chiefly to throwing a stream of water on the roofs of many buildings in the west ward as the high wind carried many embers over that part of the town.

The oil station was a frame structure, with shingle roof and held three large iron tanks for oil. A large gasoline tank was located about fifty feet from this building. When the roof of the building fell in a magnificent sight followed. Flames rose in a great mass like huge billows, to a height of almost two hundred feet at times. A large tank containing about two hundred gallons of gasoline exploded with violent force breaking the tank squarely in two. Then it was that the fire was the fiercest and illuminated the town, as the column of fire arose. It truly was a fine pyrotechnic display.

This plant contained about 18,000 gallons of oil. In the morning it was found that one of the tanks was partially filled with oil and the flames were extinguished saving at least 4,000 gallons. It was the property of the Standard Oil Co., and their loss is estimated at \$2,000. They carried no insurance. The loss to the furnace pumping station will be about \$500.

The origin of the fire certainly was that of an incendiary. Mr. Joseph L. Montgomery, manager of the company, says no fire was in the building and the watchman looked over the property early in the evening.

PAUL KOITSCH ACQUITTED.

Not Guilty of Assaulting and Murdering Six-Year-Old Edna Crider.

The jury in the case of Paul Koitsch, J., of Williamsport, charged with assaulting and murdering six-year old Edna Crider, came in last Thursday evening, at Lock Haven, with a verdict of not guilty.

The case was delayed four days at the point of argument by Judge Mayer taking ill. Court was convened in the judge's parlor and he heard the case while reclining on the couch.

Origin of Names.

"The Williamsport Grit contains the following: The origin of names of places is quite interesting to many students. Port Matilda, a pretty hamlet in the upper end of Bald Eagle valley, this county, derived its name from the fact that one of its early settlers had a sick wife and a daughter named Matilda. The father told his daughter to go to the tavern and get some port wine for her sick mother. After the daughter had left the house thinking she might forget the kind of wine needed, he shouted to her "port, Matilda." Those who heard him used the saying as a joke, and ever since that locality has been known as Port Matilda."

Puzzling the Parson.

Some one asks: "If God created all things, where did sin come from?" which inquiry is a good deal like the inquiry made of a colored preacher, who was eloquently dwelling upon the creation of Adam, who, he declared had been made out of soft clay, and stood up against the fence to dry, which was a little too much for a critical deacon in the congregation. The deacon arose and said: "Scuse me, Parson, but if Adam was de fust man, who made dat fence he was stood against to dry?" "Sit down, sit down," said the preacher, "Such questions as dat is confusion to de present system of theology."

A Native of Centre County.

George Roger, of Lawrence township, Clearfield county, who died at the County Home on Monday and was buried Wednesday, was a native of Centre county, having been born near Aaronsburg. He was aged about 95 years, and settled in Clearfield county. For many years he was a familiar figure on the streets of Clearfield, especially on "big days," with his straw baskets and hickory brooms, which he sold or exchanged for groceries, etc. He claimed to have served in the Black Hawk war.

Why He Got a Pension.

William P. Banc, who was a member of the Ringgold cavalry during the civil war, has been granted a pension of \$30 per month. He is 7 feet high and got the pension on the ground that owing to his great size the government was unable to provide him with an overcoat during the cold weather of his army service, and that because of the lack of the needed garment he caught cold and contracted rheumatism from which he now suffers.—Lock Haven Democrat.

Camp Destroyed.

It is said the loss sustained by the burning of the Newton Hamilton camp grounds on Tuesday, of last week, will reach several thousand dollars. The tramp, who is entirely responsible for the fire should be extinguished much more summarily than were the flames on those beautiful grounds, as the destruction of buildings was almost complete before the fire was gotten under control.

A Great Falling Off.

The report of the number of logs rafted out of the Williamsport boom the past year shows a great falling off as compared with the year previous. During the year just closed 110,000,000 feet were rafted out, being the smallest number of feet handled in twenty years. The previous year showing that 178,000,000 feet of logs were rafted out, a falling off of 68,000,000 feet.

Creamery Course.

The State College Dairy School has just made up its list of forty students for the Creamery Course to be given January 5th to February 16th, 1908. These students were selected in the order of their application, preference being given to those who had had previous experience. It was necessary to reject nearly thirty other applicants on account of a lack of room.

More Peaches.

The third peach orchard is to be planted near Aaronsburg, Rob Boob and L. Wert having purchased 22 acres of land from John Yeager on the north-west side of that town, and will plant it with 2000 peach trees. Last year's large crop down there has emboldened others to venture in the business of peach growing.

To cure a cough or a cold in one day take Krumrine's Compound Syrup of Tar. Money refunded if it fails to cure it.

AFRAID OF COMPETITION

Britians Say That American Trade is Hurting Them

EXPORTING MANY PRODUCTS

Large Orders for Steel Pipes and Electrical Machinery—A Protective Tariff Has Handicapped Us for Many Years—A Significant Address.

A cablegram from London says that Professor Bryce, Radical member of Parliament for South Aberdeen, in an address at Wolverhampton dwelt on the injury inflicted in British trade by foreign, especially American competition. Referring to the decrease in British exports in the last quarter, he said: "You will remember that the new protective tariff of the United States stimulated our exports for a time, and that the warehouses for 50 miles around Boston were crowded with our goods during the last two years. I am an alarmist about British trade. While other countries are gaining ground we have to consider whether we are doing everything we could to maintain further trade. The Germans are making great advances in British India in goods manufactured largely in Lancashire. In other trades also other countries are becoming formidable competitors. I have heard of large orders going to America for electrical plants. I look for a development of electrical work in England and in Canada. It is astonishing to see how extensively electricity is employed. I heard the other day of a large order being placed for steel pipes in the United States at 30 per cent. less than it could be taken in this country. That seems an extraordinary figure. Then, in Europe bicycles of American manufacture are being pushed. It seems a pity that we should allow that to go on to our disadvantage. I am aware that America is seriously handicapped by a high protective tariff that has kept them from pushing their foreign trade. But for that we would find America a much more serious competitor of this country in the foreign markets. I think that more should be done in the way of furnishing information through Consular reports as to the various classes of goods most wanted abroad. In America such reports are issued immediately they come to hand, and are therefore very valuable."

Professor Bryce has a world-wide reputation as a thoughtful writer on political and economic questions

To Stop Pension Frauds.

A secret organization, consisting of old soldiers and soldiers' friends, has been organized at Loydsville with a view of purifying the rolls of any fraudulent pensioners. So far as the investigations have gone, it shows that many old soldiers in this county who deserve pensions are left out in the cold. One remarkable case is that of a soldier who served five years in the regular army and thereafter throughout the rebellion, without pension, and, being absolutely incapable of performing physical labor, was dumped out of a postoffice position in favor of a fellow who never saw the front, but draws a pension of \$24 a month. Five hundred people will substantiate this under oath.—Altoona Times.

Valuable Freight.

A valuable lot of freight passed over the Reading and the Fall Brook railroads the other day, consigned to the Erie road for shipment to Niagara Falls. There were three car loads of aluminum ore, each car containing nearly 55,000 pounds of ore valued on the weight bills at \$10,000 a ton. The weight of the ore in the three cars would total eighty-three tons, which, at \$10,000 a ton, would aggregate a value of \$830,000. The ore was shipped from a point near Baltimore to the refinery at Niagara Falls.

Asylums for the Insane.

Pennsylvania has six large asylums for the insane and all are now crowded to their utmost capacity. On January 1, 1908, the Warren hospital contained 523 male and 451 female Patients; Danville hospital 508 males and 501 females; Harrisburg hospital 902 inmates not classified; Norristown hospital, 913 and 999 females; Wernersville hospital, for incurables, 593 males and 189 females; Dixmont hospital, 746 inmates, not classified.

Killing Bear.

While hunting foxes near Hubbersburg, a few days ago, Adam Yocum shot a large bear with fine shot. It required three loads to kill brain. It weighed 170 pounds.

On Thursday of last week, Clayton Vonada, of Woodward, killed a bear in Pine Creek Hollow. Frank Bressler also killed one at same place that weighed 340 pounds.

HOW STANTON DEFIED LINCOLN.

The application of a man who wanted to be chaplain in the army during Mr. Lincoln's Administration was recently found. Attached to it are a number of indorsements which are not only interesting in themselves, but aid in disclosing the characters of the two men whose influence largely moulded the policy of the Government in those turbulent times. The indorsements read as follows:

"DEAR STANTON: Appoint this man chaplain in the army. A. LINCOLN."

"DEAR MR. LINCOLN: He is not a preacher. E. M. STANTON."

The following indorsements are dated a few months later, but come just below:

"DEAR STANTON: He is now. A. LINCOLN."

"DEAR MR. LINCOLN: But there is no vacancy. E. M. STANTON."

"DEAR MR. STANTON: Appoint him chaplain at large. A. LINCOLN."

"DEAR MR. LINCOLN: There is no want of law for that. E. M. STANTON."

"DEAR MR. STANTON: Appoint him anyhow. A. LINCOLN."

"DEAR MR. LINCOLN: I will not. E. M. STANTON."

The appointment was not made, but the papers were filed in the War Department, where they remain as evidence of Lincoln's friendship and Stanton's obstinate nerve.—Indianapolis Journal.

Support Your Home Again.

The newspaper is the mouth-piece of the town or community in which it is published. It talks to thousands every week. If the merchants or business men are not enterprising, it tells that the town is asleep and needs wakening up. A newspaper that is not liberally supported shows lack on the part of business men. It will be made evident that an enterprise like a newspaper will soon have to go out of business and the town wiped off the map. You might as well try to do without sleep or food as to quit your support to the newspaper. Towns are known to the world by the newspapers published there, and they need enterprising business men and citizens to back them up. Do all you can to assist the newspaper publisher and he in turn will assist you.

The Overcrowded Asylum.

There are 1030 patients in the Danville hospital for the insane. There are accommodations for only 800 and the trustees have decided not to accept any more patients until the legislature provides means to increase the capacity of the institution. The Danville hospital was built for patients from the counties of Carbon, Monroe, Pike, Wayne, Lackawanna, Susquehanna, Bradford, Tioga, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder, Union, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton and Potter.

A Former Citizen.

Mr. Nathan Corl, of Fairmont, Neb., who has been in the east for several weeks visiting relatives, spent Tuesday and Wednesday with his nephew, Robert F. Hunter, on Howard street. Mr. Corl, formerly resided at Boalsburg, this county, and has not paid the east a visit for 28 years, and notes many changes. Although 75 years of age he does not look over sixty. His primary object in coming east at this time was attendance at the Foster Golden Wedding, at State College, on Dec. 28. Mrs. Wm. Foster is a sister.

A Large Fee.

Attorney A. C. Burrage, of Boston, has received the largest fee ever received by any lawyer in that city, \$200,000. Hon. Rockefeller was the maker of the big check which was tendered in Mr. Burrage's favor for services rendered in behalf of the sale of Standard Oil company property to H. M. Whitney and others. This ought to keep Burrage in beans, brown bread and codfish for a year or two.

Sugar Beets in Clinton County.

The farmers in various parts of Clinton county are experimenting with growing sugar beets. Several specimens have been sent to Washington and the analysis shows them to be of good quality and bearing a good percentage of sugar. The erection of a sugar plant is talked of and Mill Hill is reaching out for it.

School Directors Assoc.

The Pennsylvania Association of School Directors will hold its annual convention at Harrisburg, February 9th. This association is composed of representatives from the boards of education of Philadelphia, Pittsburg and Allegheny cities and organized county associations.

For Experiments.

It is said that during the last twenty years \$100,000 has been spent in drilling test wells in Potter county, and for all that expense the county has never produced a barrel of oil.

LIST OF GRANGE MEETINGS

To be Held Throughout the County This Winter

THE HAMILTON ROAD LAW

Does Not Go Into Effect This Year—No Change in the Road Law—Some Misunderstanding—No Appropriation Was Made by the Legislature—Other Items of Interest.

A series of special meetings will be held during the winter for the purpose of encouraging the subordinate granges of the county.

One day is to be spent with each subordinate chapter and meetings are to be held at which one or more of the following speakers will be present: Worthy master Leonard Rhoad; Worthy master George Dale, Hon. W. K. Alexander, Hon. John T. McCormick, J. S. Frain, James A. Keller, Samuel B. Leathers, George L. Goodhart, W. T. Rearick, John S. Dale, Col. Jas. T. Weaver and others.

The schedule of dates for the meetings is as follows:

- Howard—Thursday, Jan. 20th, 9.30 a. m. and 1.30 p. m.
- Unionville—Friday, Jan. 23rd, 1 p. m.
- Washington—Tuesday, Feb. 18th, 7 p. m.
- Centre—Tuesday, Feb. 18th, 7 p. m.
- Rock Spring—Wednesday, Feb. 2nd, 9.30 a. m. and 1.30 p. m.
- Half Moon—Thursday, Feb. 3rd, 9.30 a. m. and 1.30 p. m.
- Benner—Friday, Feb. 4th, 1 p. m.
- Madisonburg—Tuesday, Feb. 8th, 9.30 a. m.
- Rebersburg—Tuesday, Feb. 8th, 1.30 p. m.
- Millheim—Wednesday, Feb. 9th, 9.30 a. m. and 1.30 p. m.
- Fiedler—Wednesday, Feb. 9th, 7 p. m.
- Spring Mills—Thursday, Feb. 10th, 1.30 p. m.

NEW ROAD LAW.

A great many of our exchanges are publishing extracts in regard to a new road law which looks like the following:

"According to the provisions of the new Hamilton road law, each and every township in the state will elect three supervisors at this coming February election—one for one year, one for two years, and one for three years."

The Hamilton Road Act passed but is not operative until the Legislature makes an appropriation of \$1,000,000 to carry its provisions into effect. This was not done by the last legislature, as the state is short of funds. For that reason the Hamilton Road Law is not in force and the road supervision will be same as heretofore. Many persons are confused on this account. There is no change in the road law. Elect supervisors same as heretofore. The Hamilton Road Law does not change anything, until the million dollar appropriation is made.

A Pleasing Entertainment.

The Patrick O'Doyle's Comedy showed in the Lamar hall, last Saturday evening, winning great admiration. The hall was filled to the utmost capacity and had it not been for the inclemency of the weather many would have been disappointed in coming and not being able to get inside.

The first play was "The Irish Linen Peddler" which was very amusing throughout the entire play.

The second was "The Persecuted Dutchman." This not only pleased, but kept the audience in a continual uproar from beginning to end. Every part was carried out to perfection.

The program was interspersed with music by the Eureka Orchestra. The programme was interspersed with music by the Eureka orchestra, which always furnishes good music and pleases all who listen.

All who took part certainly deserve much credit in acting their parts so perfectly. After such a wonderful success it is likely they will play at a few other places and we earnestly hope that they will be well patronized wherever they go.

Will Come To Bellefonte.

The Lock Haven Democrat says:—Thursday evening the Odd Fellows of this city will pay a fraternal visit to the Bellefonte lodge, a sufficient number of pledges having been given as to warrant the committee in charge to charter a special train to return after lodge session.

New Landlord.

Simon King, a former Aaronsburger, but of late years a resident of Shick-shiny, will be the next landlord at Coburn. Simon has had considerable experience in that line.

Six Wild Cats.

Ed Craft, of Moshannon, has captured six wild cats thus far this season and lots of foxes. A few such hunters would do more to preserve the game than all our laws.

RECENT DEATHS.

DIED AT EAGLEVILLE.—Mrs. Harvey Lucas, a well known widow, of Eagleville, died Friday last of paralysis. The funeral took place Monday afternoon. Mrs. Hiram Spangler died at Eagleville, Sunday, of heart disease.

AN AGED LADY.—Mary Magdalene Wolfe, the oldest woman in Brush valley, this county, died last Thursday, January 6th, of old age. She was the widow of Jacob Wolfe who died forty years ago and her age was 95 years, 7 months and 8 days. All but seven years of her life were spent in the old home where her son, former county commissioner John Wolfe, now lives near Rebersburg. Her other children are Wm. Wolfe, of Centre Hall; Henry, of Millheim; Rev. E. J., of the Gettysburg theological seminary; and Mrs. Sarah Zeigler, of Millheim.

MRS. EPLEY GENTZEL.—On Friday afternoon Mrs. Epley Gentzel died at her home, this place. Mrs. Gentzel had only been ill a few days, the cause of her death being confinement.

Mrs. Gentzel was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Herman Miller, who live on East High street. She was a devoted member of the Methodist Episcopal church. She was born in Bellefonte, December 28, 1873, making her age 24 years and 17 days. The funeral took place on Monday morning at ten o'clock, from her home. Interment in the Zion cemetery.

DIED IN MISSOURI.—Last Wednesday, 12th Henry Garver, a native of this valley, died at the home of his son, Elias Garver, at Grant City, Missouri. He was aged 74 years, 1 month and 7 days. Mr. Garver left Penn's valley about fifteen years ago and located in Missouri, making his home with his son. His wife died about three years ago at the homestead about two miles west of Centre Hall. He leaves eight children. They are Elias and Newton, both in Grant City, Mo.; Anthony and John, both at home; Perry, in Parnell, Mo.; Mrs. Daniel Slutman, and Mrs. Ula Campbell, at Potters Mills; and Mrs. Melinda Smith, at Sober. The remains were interred at Grant City.

DIED AT STATE COLLEGE.—On Tuesday evening Mrs. Christine, widow of John Krumrine, died at State College, after an illness of some duration, incident to advanced age. She is survived by four sons and four daughters. The interment takes place this Thursday in the Pine Hall cemetery. She is the mother of Sidneyham Krumrine, the druggist of this place. Her age was about 75 years.

The deceased was born in Centre county, January 21, 1823, making her age 74 years, 11 months and 29 days. She leaves to mourn her loss eight children, namely: Mrs. D. M. Neighigh, Mrs. W. B. Kemmerer, Mrs. S. S. Grieb, Miss Chrissie Krumrine, Messrs. Adam H., Jacob, J. N., of State College, and Sidney Krumrine, of Bellefonte.

DIED AT TYRONE.—Mrs. Sarah Veihdeffer died at her home at "Greensburg," just outside Tyrone borough Wednesday 12th. Deceased was 62 years, 10 months and 12 days old. She was during her life married twice, but two husbands preceded her to the grave.

The following children survive: Fred Veihdeffer, who resided with his mother; Mrs. Bertha H. Raymond, of Clearfield county; Miss Idella Green, of Washington, D. C.; Mrs. Alice Hardollar and Mrs. Sarah Michaels, of Centre county; Mrs. Maggie Silkknitter, of Pittsburg. Mrs. Veihdeffer had lived in Tyrone about four years, coming here with her son from the vicinity of Snow Shoe. The funeral took place on Saturday. Services at the Columbia avenue M. E. church at 2 o'clock p. m., by Rev. V. T. Rue. Interment at Tyrone cemetery.

POTTERS MILLS ITEMS.

Mr. Henry Royer is very proud of the new son that came to his place.

Mr. Clayt McKenney is working at the blacksmith trade in Centre Hall.

Mr. J. R. Strong is the champion checker player. He is hard to beat. He challenges the world. Try him.

One of our young men, at this place, when he goes away, he had better look at his bed before he goes to sleep.

One of our young men who boards at this place, gets very cross if anyone talks to his girl, whom they call the belletrime.

One of our smart men of this town that belongs to one of the organizations did not know how to vote and the rule was very easy.

Our new stores are all doing a big business, and all sell very cheap. Potters Mills is getting to be pretty prosperous. They have another new blacksmith nearby.

The Centre Reporter's correspondent, of this town, made a mistake when he said that Forest Bible who clerked in A. E. Carson's new store went to Centre Hall to help start another new store.

Mr. Chas. Sweetwood is going west in the spring. We hope he will have a success of it. We are all very sorry that we are losing such a good friend. He is a member of the Potters Mills Cornet Band, and is a fine cornetist.