

The Centre Democrat.

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BELLEFONTE'S POSTMASTER

W. W. Montgomery was appointed last Friday.

QUAY FACTIONS ARE HAPPY

A Brief Review of an Interesting Republican Quarrel—How the "Soldier Boys" were Remembered—Judge Love is Extremely Jubilant over Hasting's Knockout.

For over two years, since McKinley's election, there has been a lively time among Bellefonte republicans for the postmastership at this place, worth about \$2100 per year. There were ten applicants entered the race. All had a peculiar push or pull—in their minds. Nearly all were dead sure of getting the coveted prize, because the famous Bill Arnold was so prolific in promises to all who sought his congressional endorsement. Factional state politics soon was injected in the issue. Quay and anti-Quay influences began to line up on this appointment. Arnold withheld the appointment to insure his renomination and election, but failed in the latter. The contest gradually narrowed down to two men: S. H. Williams, endorsed by the anti-Quay and Hastings side; and W. W. Montgomery by Arnold, Quay and others. The appointment was due last April, but owing to their party distinctions Mr. Fortney was continued in office for almost a year. Many thought that the selection of Charles Emory Smith as Postmaster-General, Gov. Hastings' friend, would result in Williams' appointment. On the other hand the Montgomery faction claimed that they had the assurance from the President and were confident.

Last Friday the suspense was broken by President McKinley naming Mr. Montgomery as the man, and the same was immediately confirmed.

Mr. Montgomery will likely take charge of the office about April 1st. All the present carriers: John Bair, Wm. Woods, Robert Woodring, E. E. Ardrey, clerks, Miss Henrietta Butts and Wm. Garman, come under the civil service regulations and cannot be removed except for sufficient cause. The only change likely, rather certain, will be that of Assistant Postmaster Thomas Howley. It is intimated that he will be succeeded by Austin, son of Harry Brew, a nephew of Judge Love, who, by the way, was Mr. Montgomery's principal supporter, and is the leader of the anti-Hastings forces in this county.

Mr. Montgomery, we believe, will make a decent and obliging official. As a citizen he is highly respected and with no objections to his personal qualifications. We congratulate him upon his determined, persistent canvass and success in landing this bitterly contested and much-coveted prize. May he enjoy the full fruits of his victory, and in four years step down and out for some deserving democrat.

W. W. Montgomery was born in Columbia, Pa. Aug. 25th, 1832 and came to Bellefonte in April, 1835, and lived here practically all his life, excepting the years 1847 spent in Lewistown and 1864 he held a position in the Quarter-Master General's office in Washington. D. C. From 1865 to '69 he held the position of postmaster of Bellefonte. Since then he has been engaged in the mercantile business, and after a lapse of 30 years returns to his former official position.

LARGE ORDERS FOR BRICK.

The Clinton County Fire Brick Works Doing A Rushing Business.

The Clinton County Fire Brick Company, of Mill Hall, received an order last week for forty-nine car loads of fire brick. Yesterday another large order was received and still another big order is expected this week. The product of the works meets with favor wherever the brick have been introduced, proving that the output is first class. The booking of these large orders means a large increase in the force of workmen in the near future and a large increase in the pay roll. The Clinton County Fire Brick Works will likely be among the largest industries in that county in the near future.

A Splendid Lecture.

Monday evening a large audience assembled in the court house to hear Dr. Holloway's lecture on "Sights and Insights in Europe." For an hour and a half his audience enjoyed a tour through the important cities and points of interest in England, France, Switzerland, Germany and Italy. It was interesting, entertaining and instructive; presented in an easy graphic manner. All present enjoyed the lecture.

The proceeds amounted to about \$63 above expenses, which will be appropriated to the church fund.

WOODMEN ORGANIZED.

State College Lodge No. 6137 Opens With Eighteen Members.

A charter was given to State College Lodge, No. 6137, Modern Woodmen of America recently. The charter contained 18 names, among which are some of the most influential business people of the town. Order was called by M. M. Hunter, Deputy Heat Consul, of Howard. After which the lodge was instituted and the following officers were elected and installed for the ensuing term:—consul, Dr. W. S. Harter; adviser, S. S. Grieb; clerk, L. Ray Morgan; banker, H. D. Meek; physician, Dr. W. S. Glenn; escort, Clark Herman; watchman, Jas. P. Aiken; sentry, George W. Burns; managers, Juo. Krumrine, J. F. Condo, Wm. Hoy.

AN ABLE ADDRESS.

The fourth annual convention of "The Penna. State Association of school Directors," assembled in the High School building, Harrisburg, Pa., on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. It was a large gathering of prominent educators from all sections of the state who take an active interest in the educational work of our public schools.

After the opening address by Pres. H. H. Hubert, of Philadelphia, Gov. Stone addressed the directors.

The first discussion before the session was that delivered by D. F. Fortney, Esq., of Bellefonte, upon a topic which should prove of interest to most of our readers: "What causes should be sufficient to demand a change of text books, and what influences should govern a director for voting for any particular book." In our next issue Mr. Fortney's address will be given as we consider it able and timely.

Spectacle Swindlers.

On Monday two sleek, well-dressed young men came to town and stopped at the Brockerhoff House. They were in the spectacle business—claimed to be opticians. They made a canvass of the town and confined their field of work among women. They would first alarm their victims by telling them that a serious disease of the eyes was developing and that a change of glasses was needed to preserve their eyesight. They would pretend to furnish the necessary spectacles for a same anywhere from \$3 to \$20. In this way they victimized a number of ladies.

The physicians of the town took immediate action, had them placed under arrest Tuesday evening, and Wednesday afternoon were given a hearing.

Upon agreeing to refund the money, pay \$18 costs and leave the state they were released. They gave their names as A. G. and S. A. Goulson. From an exchange we learn that the same game was played in neighboring towns.

Our Medical Society is to be commended for taking such prompt action in this case.

Opera Houses as Profit Owners.

There are 200 towns in Pennsylvania that have large public halls or opera houses, only 47 being so built as to depend alone on public entertainments for their revenue. Of these 47 only 7 paid dividends last year, none of which exceeded 3 per cent. Of the whole 200, only 28 paid profits on the capital invested. It can therefore be taken for granted that a town hall in this state is an evidence of public spirit rather than a source of profit to the owners.

Booming Town.

The new mining town of Florence, near Punxsutawney, which will be built next summer, will be the largest mining town in this part of the state, and the mine will employ more men than any other single bituminous mine in the United States. A vast coal territory will be tapped by this opening, and when the headings are driven it is expected to give employment to over 2,000 men.

Not Alarmed.

A man died at Gallitzin a few days ago who had a wife living at Osceola Mills. When the sad news was broken to her by a friend, the widow of only a few hours did not swoon and fall into the arms of her friend in a faint, but straightened herself out and assuming as rigid a perpendicular position as a marble statue, with a loud and firm voice exclaimed: "Bury him where he died: all I want is a certificate of his death."

New Fields of Labor.

One hundred years ago the typewriter, the saleslady, the line-man, the engineer, the fireman, the motorman, the gripman, the telephone operator, the telephone girl, the brakeman, the electrician, the elevator boy, and a long list of other occupations did not exist. It is not often realized by labor that modern conditions have multiplied occupations and trades to a degree greater than any other increase of the nineteenth century.

ODD FELLOWS' BANQUET

The 53rd Annual Anniversary Duly Observed by

CENTRE LODGE NO. 153 I. O. O. F.

An Elaborate Banquet Served—Over 150 Were Present—Calvin M. Bower Esq., Toastmaster—Several Brilliant Addresses—For Grand Warden, J. C. Meyer.

The anniversary of the organization of Centre Lodge, No. 153, I. O. O. F., of Bellefonte, is an occasion that is always appropriately observed, and never were exercises more fitting and enjoyable than last Thursday evening, Feb. 23rd, the 53rd annual anniversary. Their elegantly furnished apartments in the Cridler building were thronged by the numerous devotees of the order accompanied by their wives, lady friends and a number of guests who deemed it a special favor to be present on this occasion. In all, there were over 150 who were invited to assemble about the festive board, laden with toothsome viands and rare delicacies to tempt the most fastidious. During the serving of the courses, the famous Waldo Mandolin Club of this place contributed to the guests enjoyment by the rendition of some of their choicest classical strains.

The banquet over, Toastmaster Calvin M. Bower, one of the distinguished members of the order for over 27 years, arose and in an appropriate address called the banqueters to order for the succeeding portion of the program—the feast of reason and flow of wit, in which the following gentlemen participated:

"The true spirit of Odd Fellowship," J. C. Meyer, Esq.

"Friendship, Love and Truth," W. Harrison Walker, Esq.

"Degree of Rebecca," Hon. R. A. Beck.

"The Irishman's opinion of Odd Fellowship Responded to by a Brush Valley Dutchman," Co. Supt. C. L. Gramley.

"The Ladies what do they think of Odd Fellowship," Hon. D. F. Fortney.

"The widows and orphans," Prof. A. R. Rutt.

"Is it an advantage to be an Odd Fellow?" Capt. Hugh Taylor.

"What the outside world thinks of us," T. H. Harter.

Short addresses were made also by Chas. R. Kurtz, Chief Burgess F. E. Nagney, J. S. McCargar and H. B. Pontius. Applause interspersed the utterances of the various speakers, who interested and entertained the guests. Feasted, royally entertained and delighted with the hospitality of the Odd Fellows and the rare opportunity to assemble within the spacious apartments and about the mystic shrines of this beneficent order, the guests took their departure only after expressing their highest appreciation for the evening's enjoyment.

The success of the anniversary is largely due to the thoughtful effort of J. S. McCargar and the elegant menu served by Caterer Chas. F. Harrison.

FOR GRAND WARDEN.

At the last meeting night in the month of March, the Past Grand, I. O. O. F., in this state, will elect a Grand Warden. There are about a half dozen candidates in different sections of the state who are aspiring for this position, and among them, and probably the foremost, is Past Grand J. Calvin Meyer, of Centre Lodge, No. 153, I. O. O. F., Bellefonte, Pa. At this writing he has the assurance of strong support from all sections of the state.

Mr. Meyer has been an active member in the order and his usefulness has been appreciated in assigning him to the following positions: Member of Subordinate and Encampment branch for a number of years; representative, for three years, to Grand Lodge from Centre Lodge; a Charter Member of the Odd Fellow's Orphan Home, at Sunbury; a member of Board of Directors since the establishment of the Home, and still is; Chairman of Property Committee, and on Committee on By Laws of Home; representative to the Home, from the Grand Lodge; a member of the committee appointed at last session of the Grand Lodge to revise the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, and other positions.

The position of Grand Warden truly is a high one in the order, and bears with it honors as well as responsibilities, for all of which Mr. Meyer is fully competent.

His many friends in Centre county, where he is well known, are anxious to bear of his election.

Annual Conference at Lewisburg.

The annual conference of the United Evangelical church of Central Pennsylvania convenes at Lewisburg on Thursday morning, the preliminaries beginning this evening. Three presiding elders will be elected and there will be many changes in the pastorate. Bishop W. M. Stanford, D. D., will preside.

BRIDGE GAVE WAY.

Engine No. 7, a new thirty-ton locomotive, which runs on the Lewisburg and Buffalo valley railroad, of which Hon. H. M. Kulp, of Shamokin, is president, went over a high trestle about three miles north of Lewisburg, Thursday. The accident happened on the bridge over the Buffalo creek. The engine was pulling a train of empty cars up the mountain, and while crossing the bridge the structure gave way and the engine was precipitated into the creek, about twenty feet below. Engineer Hare realized the danger in time and jumped off before the engine went down. Fireman Iche and Kreisher and Rearick, two laborers, who were on the engine, went down with it into the creek. While they were both badly hurt, it is thought their injuries will not prove fatal.

The trestling had been weakened by the high water and the weight of the heavy engine crushed it down. They are now submerged in the water in a badly wrecked condition, and considerable difficulty will be experienced in recovering them.

A SHOE STORY.

During the campaign prior to the spring election an amusing incident occurred which, in consideration for both parties concerned, we withheld from print. Last week's Grit gave it away in the following style:

"Messrs. W. H. Walker and H. B. Pontius were opposing candidates for borough auditors. Young Saylor, who resides in Spring township, was asked by Mr. Walker to vote for him. Saylor told him to get him a pair of shoes and he would do it. Walker gave him a pair that were worn thin in the soles. Meeting Mr. Pontius, Saylor asked him to get the shoes half-soled. Mr. Pontius gave him a dollar for the purpose. As Saylor votes in the township the joke was on both candidates."

Mr. Walker admits it is a true bill. Mr. Pontius says that it is true in part, but wrong in its inference. He says he got the shoes soled but knew that the lad lived outside of the borough.

Walker says that the shoes were not worth 50 cents and that Pontius spent twice that amount on soles. Consult either of the above parties for further information. It is said, that since the election is over, the charitable inclinations of both are on the decline.

Arrested At Snow Shoe.

Another "crook" was brought to justice at Snow Shoe, on Thursday afternoon, Feb. 23rd, by B. E. Shank, one of F. B. Buddinger's "young sleuths." A German, by the name of Wm. Gomer, was noticed loafing around the store a good deal for the last month or so, therefore arousing suspicion; but he never could be caught taking anything, until Thursday last when there happened to be no one in the store but one of the clerks, B. E. Shank, and the clever old Dutchman. Boyd being occupied at some quiet work or other, at the rear of the store, concluded to watch him. It was not very long until he saw him take a gold watch chain out of the jewelry case. Mr. Buddinger had him searched and found other articles beside the watch chain, which he had undoubtedly taken before. Afterwards his house was searched, at Clarence, by B. E. Shank, A. B. Buddinger and David Chambers, the constable, where they found two trunks full of merchandise, such as shoes, gloves and dry goods, etc., and also a chest containing what was supposed to be a set of burglar tools. Mr. Gomer was taken to the Bellefonte jail where he will await his trial. This should be a lesson to other meddlesome persons. Boyd isn't always asleep when his eyes are shut.

Lock Haven Girl.

The following telegram, under date of Atlanta, Ga., February 23, appeared in the papers recently.

A Lock Haven, Pa., young woman has captured an amiable and wealthy Georgia husband by means of an advertisement for a wife, which James Butler, who is 70 years old, but vigorous and a widower, inserted in a Philadelphia newspaper.

Ten days ago Miss Madge Strohecker, 20 years old, of Lock Haven, read Butler's advertisement and answered it, sending her photograph. Butler was so favorably impressed with the young woman that he telegraphed her to meet him in Philadelphia, and Saturday last the two met there to ascertain if they were affinities. The old gentleman insisted on marrying on Georgia soil and the young woman consented to come to Atlanta with him, putting great faith in her newly found admirer.

They journeyed to Georgia together and Friday they appeared at the home of Dr. Walker Lewis, pastor of the First Methodist church, and were married.

The young woman was known by the name of Ann Strohecker.

WASHINGTON LETTER

Review of the Leading Events At the Nation's Capitol.

SEC. ALGER'S RESIGNATION

A Sensational Attack made upon the President's course—Anxious for Alger's Retirement—The Philippine Policy Bearing Fruit—Desired Backdown.

Mr. McKinley's backdown from his army bluff will go down in Congressional history as the most complete ever made by a President. The democratic victory is complete. The new Army bill is practically just what was offered to the administration by Senator Cockrell, on behalf of those Senators who opposed a large standing army—it provides for continuing the present status of the regular army of 62,000 men for two years from next July, and for enlisting 35,000 volunteers for the same period. The administration Senators fairly fell over each other in their anxiety to accept Senator Cockrell's offer. The next Congress, which will be republican in both branches, will probably inflict a large standing army on the country, but that will not deprive the Senators who killed the bill, to do so at this time, of deserved credit.

Our Philippine policy is bearing fruit quickly. In addition to having an expensive war with the Filipinos on our hands, Dewey's despatch to hurry up the battleship Oregon indicates the belief on his part that there is danger of war with more powerful opponents. Just how great this danger is can only be guessed, because officials are concealing what information they have and pretending that the despatch from Dewey, which was made public by mistake, had no meaning. Little information can be gained from private despatches from Manila as they are all strictly censored, but it is known that conditions are critical, and that European consuls there are making some stiff claims on account of the recent partial burning of the town.

Mr. McKinley has been catching it again from members of his own party in Congress. Senator Sewell, who voted for ratification of the treaty and for everything else that has been asked for by the administration, was so stirred up, by the progress of the war with the Filipinos, that he let out the fact that he had been supporting the McKinley policy against his own judgement. He said emphatically: "I never was in favor of the acquisition of the Philippines," and added that he had begged Mr. McKinley to order Dewey away from Manila, after he won his victory. Mr. Sewell thinks the Filipinos will have to be practically exterminated before we can control the Philippines. He also thinks that we shall soon be at war with Cuba, because of the administration policy.

Representative Johnson, of Ind., a republican, made a long speech, nearly every sentence of which contained an attack upon Mr. McKinley. He said of those who attacked Alger and praised Mr. McKinley that they have "lacked the courage to lay their axe to the root of the evil and censure the gentleman who, to reward him for his political services and disbursements in the campaign of '96, appointed him (Alger) to his present position, and had maintained him there ever since, notwithstanding his incompetency and against the righteous complaints that have been made against him." He said that Mr. McKinley's recent Boston address "was nothing more nor less than a carefully devised misstatement of the issue," and of our Philippine policy: "I insist that the whole policy is not simply an error, but that it is a crime, and that the Chief Executive of this nation is one who has precipitated upon us the embarrassments and difficulties by which we are now confronted." Speaking of the claim that Mr. McKinley acted upon the advice of Dewey, in demanding the Philippines, Mr. Johnson said: "The Chief Executive cannot screen himself behind the gold lace of the hero of Manila. He expressed the opinion that the real reason for Mr. McKinley's policy was 'his concessions to the selfish capitalists of the country, his surrender to their demands. These are the gentlemen who furnished the money for his nomination and election, and who, I doubt not, have pledged him a re-nomination and re-election. These are the gentlemen who are already grasping after special privileges in the Philippines, in Cuba, and in Porto Rico. It was, I imagine, for their especial benefit that the President created his Advisory Board to the War Department."

It is an open secret in Washington that Mr. McKinley would be glad to receive Alger's resignation. The story circulated last week that Alger was about to resign originated in administration circles.

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FACT, FEN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

On your label is a date: Pay before it is too late. Be it dollars or be it dimes. We will thank you many times. We have bills which now are due. We must pay them just like you.

The wise shad now keeps shady. Spring freshets are getting fresh. Cycle fever germs are spreading. Fishing for compliments is sometimes hard work.

The poorest marksman may accidentally hit the target. The best is the cheapest, but the cheapest isn't always the best.

A fool is a man who expects some other man to look out for him. If you would make a lion roar persuade somebody else to twist his tail. It may take nine tailors to make a man, but one woman can break him.

The average woman may be fond of fads, but she hates new wrinkles.

All men are born ignorant and lots of them never succeed in outgrowing it. The man with too many irons in the fire is sure to take one by the hot end.

Unlike other tradesmen, the fireman never kicks at having hitches in his business.

The man who doesn't believe in heaven or the other place always wants the earth.

Man is called the stronger vessel probably because he holds so much when he is full.

A smart man has no more use for beauty than a handsome man has for brains.

A Frankford man calls his twin children "Coincidence" because they happened together.

Give a neighbor your skim milk and he's apt to kick because you didn't share the cream with him.

Revenge may be sweet at first, but it gradually acquires a flavor that is anything but agreeable.

A man can gain more practical experience from poverty in 30 days than he can from riches in 10 years.

Little grains of wisdom and little chunks of sense make the wounds of Cupid's shafts a little less intense.

When a young woman acknowledges herself of age one may know that she has property in her own name.

The more you stir up a plate of soup the cooler it becomes—and you'll find it the same way with some friends.

Sheep-shearing is done by machinery in Australia. At the stock exchange in this country it is done by electricity.

President McKinley left General Egan a \$5,000 a year; but he did not do a thing to his horse. No oats, no corn, no fodder—nothing.

"Does Miss Gotzow think that her father will give you a boost in life?" "Oh, yes; she has warned me to expect the worst when I call on him."

An Ohio minister has been convicted on a charge of flirting with a pretty girl. The beauty in this case will hardly act as a mitigating circumstance.

The man who applied for a divorce because he discovered after marriage that his wife had a glass eye has at the same time pleaded guilty to some very listless courting.

Tommy-Faw, who was it said the voice of the people is the voice of God? Mr. Figg—I've forgotten now, but I'll bet he didn't say it just after getting defeated at the polls.

A young physician was once called in by a gentleman who had a very sick mother-in-law. After looking into the case carefully the young M. D. called the gentleman aside and said: "Well, the only thing I can suggest is that you send your mother-in-law to a warmer climate." The man disappeared and came back with an ax a moment later, and exclaimed: "Here, doctor, you kill her! I really haven't the heart!"

Since Joseph Choate's appointment as ambassador to England, one of his wittiest sayings is being retold. It was made over a private dinner-table at which he and Mrs. Choate were guests. Some one inquired of him who he would like to be if he could not be himself. He paused a few seconds, as if thinking over the list of world celebrities, and then his eye rested upon his wife. "H," he answered, "I should not be myself, I should like to be Mrs. Choate's second husband."

Assessed Valuation.

The assessed value of property in Centre county, excluding money, mortgages, judgments and unseated lands in the year 1897 was \$11,977,546. In 1898 it was \$11,547,226, a decrease of \$430,320. How this could be so, when the real value of farms, farm stock and farm products have advanced in value, is a conundrum.

No Peaches—Buds Frozen.

The peach crop is in a bad way, that is the general opinion. The owners of peach orchards in Pennsylvania and other parts of the county, say that all peach buds are frozen, in some cases the freeze also killed the trees.