

# The Centre Democrat.

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BELLEFONTE, PA. THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 1899.

VOL. 21, NO. 14.

## KILLED BY HIS OWN SON

A Sad Affair Occurred in Haines twp., on Saturday.

## TO SAVE HIS MOTHER'S LIFE

Lewis Dennis Strikes down his Father in a Desperate Encounter—Was Choking his Mother—It Occurred on Last Saturday night—Died the next Day.

A most distressing affair occurred near Fiedler, a small village in Haines township, between Aaronburg and Coburn, on last Saturday evening, resulting in the death of Samuel Dennis, at the hands of his son Lewis. Several versions of the affair have been in print that are not correct. The following account was furnished us by Dr. C. S. Musser, of Aaronburg, and others from that vicinity:

Samuel Dennis, a man of about 56 years, resided with his wife and son Lewis, near Fiedler. Mr. Dennis was a laboring man, industrious and frugal. He was subject to epilepsy and when an attack came he frequently became irrational, violent and frenzied.

Late last Saturday evening Lewis, their son, heard a disturbance in the parent's bedchamber, by screams from his mother. He surmised that something must be wrong and ran to the room, where all was dark but a struggle was in progress. He struck a match and saw the father bending over the bed choking and beating the mother in the face. He went to her rescue and by a hard struggle succeeded in pulling the frenzied man away, who then turned in all his insane rage upon the son and a desperate encounter ensued. The father attempted to strike the son down with a chair, which was avoided, and as a last resort the son struck the father on the back of the neck felling him to the floor in an unconscious condition. He never recovered and lingered until Sunday night when he passed away.

Lewis Dennis always was a dutiful son, and this sad termination is not attributed to any evil design on his part by the citizens of that community. The mother was not seriously injured, but no doubt would have been killed had not timely assistance arrived. For the past 18 years Mr. Dennis had been subject to these attacks and often became violent.

The interment took place on Wednesday forenoon, at St. Paul's church in Hainestownship. A number of children survive.

No inquest was held over the remains as there apparently is no doubt as to the circumstances of the death.

## PET RATS SAW HER DIE.

Newark Woman Worth \$250,000 Lived in Squalor.

Sixty years ago Miss Maria Vansycle was known as the prettiest and most stylish young woman in Newark. Her father was very wealthy and many admirers sought her hand, but she refused them all. On Thursday a withered old crone of 81 years, she passed away in squalor surrounded by a colony of pet rats. Although she died because she would not spend enough money to buy medicine, she leaves real estate and securities worth nearly a quarter of million of dollars. She owned the large house in which she died, and lived in it as a recluse for half a century.

For nearly twenty years she has not crossed the threshold of her house, and in all that time not a man has been allowed to set foot in the house. Up to three years ago her dwelling was filled with cats. Then her taste for pets suddenly changed and she made friends with the rats until the big house was filled with an army of vermin so tame they would come at her call and eat out of her hand.

## Interesting Operation.

About two weeks ago Sheriff Cronister accompanied his brother Dallas to Philadelphia, and had the latter's little five-year old son placed in the Polyclinic hospital. Three years ago the child drank lye which burned the throat and in healing it caused a stricture, the muscles contracted and almost closed up the passage to the stomach so that in three years only liquid nourishment could be taken, no solids could pass through the small aperture. It was thought that an incision would have to be made in the neck, but first an attempt was made to pass a fine rubber tube down the throat and by repeating the operation daily, gradually increasing the size of the tube relief eventually might be obtained. In this they have been successful, and the physicians have every hope with their little patient who, notwithstanding this misfortune, is hearty, robust and the jolliest patient in the hospital.



E. R. CHAMBERS, ESQ.

## RECENT DEATHS.

MRS. JOHN ANDERSON SR.—On Sunday evening after an illness of over a month, Mrs. John Anderson died at her home in this place.

Mrs. Anderson was born at Pittsburg, her maiden name being Catherine George; age 50 years, 8 months and 1 day. She was the mother of nine children, three of whom preceded her to her home above. The children are Mrs. W. C. Cassidy, of Canton, Ohio; John, of Bellefonte; Mrs. E. A. Nolen, of Pittsburg; Nellie, Carrie and Charley, at home with their father.

The funeral took place Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock, Rev. Levan Buckle officiating. Interment in Union cemetery. Her illness was due to tuberculosis. Mrs. Anderson will be greatly missed by her many friends and neighbors and especially by the little children who lived near her home as she was always kind to them.

HENRY STOVER.—Inflammation of the lungs along with a self-inflicted wound in the neck while in a demented condition, caused the death of Henry Stover, at Woodward, on Wednesday 29th. Deceased was 74 years old and had been falling for some time. He is survived by four children: Charles Stover, of Woodward; Mrs. David Musser, of Nittany valley; Mrs. Orndorf and Mrs. Agnes Stover, of Woodward. Interment was made at St. Paul's church, Saturday, Mr. Stover was a highly respected citizen of that community.

SAMUEL GEHRETT.—Died Tuesday night at 10 o'clock, aged 52 years and 13 days. He leaves a wife and five children namely: Mrs. Harper Hoffman, Harry, William, Call and Edward. Services will be held in the Lutheran church, Friday afternoon at 2:30. The cause of his death was cancer of the stomach. Interment in Union cemetery.

SAMUEL DENNIS.—Samuel Dennis, of Haines township, died April 2, 1899. He leaves a wife, three daughters and one son. Deceased was subject to epilepsy for about eight years. The funeral services will take place at St. Paul on Wednesday morning, conducted by his pastor, Rev. A. G. Wolf.

JERRY GARMAN.—Jerry, son of George Garman aged about 12 years, died Friday afternoon of typhoid fever, at the home of his parents in this place. Funeral took place Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment in Union Cemetery.

MRS. RACHAEL TAGGART.—On Thursday evening Mrs. Rachael Taggart died in Chicago. She was a daughter of Mrs. Rebecca Derr, of this place, and at one time resided here.

## Census Officers.

There is no use to apply for a census position as yet. The enumerators will be selected by the supervisors and these officers will not be appointed until December, 1899. The supervisors will get only \$1,000 and the enumerators, whose term of office will be limited to thirty days' duration, will only get \$150 each. The special pension agents will receive \$6 per day, together with necessary traveling and other expenses while on the road and \$3 while doing office work. Very few appointments we find will be made before June, 1900.

## Starting Another Mill.

E. M. Hayett, the extensive lumberman, who is operating on a large tract above Colyer, is putting in another large saw mill in the mountains beyond Potters Mills with two large mills and a big cattle ranch, along with the other interests, his time will be well occupied.—Reporter.

Mr. Hayett, in addition to the above, is interested in the new telephone company and has poles up from Centre Hall for a distance of seven miles to Potters Mills and Tusseyville ready for the stringing of the wire.

## E. R. CHAMBERS IN LUCK

Received a Nice Appointment one Day Last Week.

## LOCAL QUAYITE RECOGNIZED

He was one of the Original Stone men in this County—A Prominent Young Attorney who is Succeeding—We Extend Congratulations on his Success.

About one week ago Edward R. Chambers, Esq., one of our prominent young attorneys received notice of his appointment as attorney for the Auditor General's Department at Harrisburg, Pa. Among his first duties are to accompany an expert accountant in a trip over the state to audit and inspect the manner in which appropriations to schools and charitable institutions have been expended. It is an important position with a comfortable salary.

This appointment comes to Mr. Chambers in recognition for the pronounced stand he took in the interest of Gov. Stone's candidacy for the nomination and election, and is the first appointment Centre county received from the present administration.

We must compliment our friend, and such he is barring politics, upon his success. Mr. Chambers is one of the few young men who grow up under adverse circumstances. Without resources, he made a struggle to acquire an education while a student at State College. In 1881 he came to Bellefonte and entered the law office of Alexander & Bower, and under similar discouragements prepared himself for admission to the practice of the law. Without influential friends or resources he has fought his own fight and to-day is one of the prominent young attorneys at the bar with a large practice and has attained distinction as a criminal lawyer. During President Harrison's administration Mr. Chambers held the position of Deputy U. S. Revenue Collector of this district and discharged the duties of that office in an acceptable manner. At present he is solicitor of Bellefonte boro.

Politically, he has always been an ardent republican, and one of the active men in the party councils.

While we can not endorse his political views and affiliations, we admire his fearless energy in a contest, and heartily congratulate him upon his success.

## Drank Banner Lye.

A sad affair occurred at Millheim on Sunday in the death of Mrs. John Hoover from the effects of drinking Banner Lye, on the Friday previous. She and her husband had expected to resume house-keeping April 1st, but this deed has ended those calculations. The lady had been in a demented condition for some time which accounts for her rash act. A husband and four small children survive.

## Trouble Among Officials.

Over at Centre Hall they are having a bit of fun with their boro officials. The boro treasurer handled considerable money during the construction of the water plant, about \$5000. On this amount he has charged his regular commission of 3 per cent, which gives him a nice bonus for the year's work. On the other hand the town council claim there was an understanding that only about 1 per cent was to be charged, and this agreement was made when he was elected. Mr. Goodhart claims to have no knowledge of any such agreement and there the matter hangs. Former boro treasurers got their 3 per cent and Mr. Goodhart wants the same amount.

## Fire in a Philipsburg Hotel.

A fire broke out in one of the rooms of the Lloyd house at Philipsburg Friday morning, but the flames were shortly extinguished. The interior of the house was badly damaged by smoke and water. Charles Myers was taken out of the building almost suffocated by smoke.

## LOVE LAUGHS, ETC.

Eloping Lovers Eude their Parents, Spend a Night at Selinsgrove.

The old saw "love laughs at locksmiths," was demonstrated last week when an ardent but objectional (to the girl's parents) wooer met the sweetheart who had plighted her troth to him, while she was on a long journey to San Francisco, Cal., where her parents were sending her to forget him, and they were married almost within the county limits of old Northumberland.

For years Joseph R. McLaughlin, the popular wholesale cigar dealer, paid attention to Miss Katie Haile, the attractive daughter of Lawrence Haile, who recently retired from his labors for the P. & R. company and is spending his old days enjoying the first fruits of his hard earned savings. For some reason the young girl's parents objected to the young man, but it mattered very little as the lovers met anyhow almost whenever they pleased. Finally affairs came to a crisis when the old folks were informed that the young couple intended marrying and they warned their daughter that if she married against their will they would disinherit her.

For several weeks the young lady pined away for her lover and at last cupid's little shafts in the form of sweet-scented notes passed between them secretly. They had formulated plans to outwit the old folks and quite cleverly they did it.

Miss Haile professed that she desired to visit an uncle in San Francisco, Cal., and last Thursday her father purchased the railroad ticket for her, sending his son Joseph with her as far as Sunbury. There the brother and sister parted—the one returning home and the other bound westward.

However, the young lady, to the surprise of the conductor, alighted at Selinsgrove and there awaited the arrival of the next train which was to bring her lover as pre-arranged. Sure enough, Joe was on the train and met his affianced wife. They hired a horse and carriage and drove to the clergyman's residence and were made man and wife. Mr. McLaughlin had secured the marriage license at Sunbury several weeks ago and although previous attempts to use it had failed, it was nevertheless a valuable acquisition at the time.

After spending the night in the quiet Snyder county village, Mr. McLaughlin boarded a train for Allegheny City where she will spend several weeks with relatives, while her husband returned to town and is now receiving the congratulations of his many friends.

## Special Services in the Lutheran Church.

The services in the Lutheran church, on the coming Lord's day, will be of extraordinary interest, and the public is cordially invited to be present. The Rev. H. H. Weber, of York, Pa., the general secretary of the Board of Church Extension of the General Synod of the church, will be present and occupy the pulpit both morning and evening.

Come and bring your friends to hear this distinguished divine. He will also address the Sunday school and the Society of Christian Endeavor.

## Prospects Bright.

The Lock Haven Democrat says: The prospects for the terra cotta pipe works resuming operations are very bright. If all the plans now maturing are carried out, the plant will be running before May 1st. About 100 men will be given employment.

The terra cotta pipe works firm is now a member of the American sewer pipe trust, which was organized a few weeks ago in New York city.

## Fruit Prediction.

Those who watch signs and govern themselves accordingly, predict an early spring. They hold that as there was no warm weather sufficient to start the trees budding during the months of February, the same conditions will be in force until April, when an unusual warm spell will set in and continue. One of the largest fruit yields ever known is predicted throughout certain sections of this state.

## Organ Recital.

On Tuesday evening, April 18th, an organ recital will be given in the Presbyterian church under the patronage of the ladies of the congregation. Miss Winifred Newbaker, the organist, will be assisted by Miss Grace Rockafellow Woods, soloist in the church of the Messiah, New York city, and the entire program promises an enjoyable evening of high class music.

The Easter services in the Lutheran church were of unusual interest and solemnity. Ten members were added to the church by confirmation and baptism. Twelve were added some time ago, making a total of 22. That congregation is growing in membership under Dr. Holloway's pastorate.

## CHARGED WITH INCENDIARISM

John and Reuben Frantz Arrested on a Serious Charge.

## DECLARE THEY ARE INNOCENT

Held for Appearance at April Term of Court Barn, Live Stock and Crops burned for Christian Sharer, in Taylor township on Tuesday Morning.

Shortly after 1 o'clock, on Tuesday morning, a large barn on Christian Sharer's farm, one and a half miles north of Hannah, in Taylor township, broke out in flames and soon was consumed with all its contents. In the barn were seven horses and nine cows, farm implements, grain of various kinds, hay and fodder, all of which was consumed. The loss Mr. Sharer estimates at \$2000 with no insurance.

On Tuesday evening Constable Montgomery brought John and Reuben Frantz, two sons of Samuel Frantz, and near neighbors of Samuel Sharer, to Bellefonte, and were lodged in jail on the charge of having set fire to this building. The information against them was made by Mr. Sharer. The defendants waived a hearing before Justice Keichline, and placed under \$1000 bonds each for their appearance at April quarter sessions to answer to this charge. The bail was furnished by their father, Samuel Frantz, and two uncles, John and Wilson Frantz.

It is said that for some time considerable feeling existed between the two families by reason of Mr. Sharer securing possession of some unseated lands that the Frantz had owned, but neglected to pay the taxes, and that threats had been passed. Mr. Sharer claims to have found tracks of two persons plainly marked on the frosted ground the morning of the fire which led from his property through the woods where the footprints were plainly imbedded in the snow, and took them directly to the home of John and Reuben Frantz. The footprints are of lumberman's gum shoes, and it is claimed the defendants wore such shoes. There is other evidence that will be offered in connection with the above.

The two young men declare they can prove their presence at home the evening of the fire, and without any doubt. W. F. Reeder, Esq., and District Attorney Spangler will represent Mr. Sharer and Wm. E. Gray Esq., the Frantz boys. As no one of the family had been about the Sharer barn that night, there is every reason to think that the fire was of incendiary origin. Who it was remains to be proven.

## Charged With Incendiarism.

A sensation has been sprung upon the Nittany valley farmers by P. M. Dornblazer swearing out a warrant, charging George C. Brumgard, with setting fire to the barn on the Dornblazer estate in Porter township. It will be remembered that the barn was burned between 4 and 5 o'clock on the morning of March 2. Mr. Brumgard will be given a hearing next Friday.

## LATE NEWS.

The dispatches from Manila indicate that the Philippines will continue the struggle to the last. They are opposed to any surrender. There is plenty of life left in the insurgent ranks. A stubborn warfare is to be continued. Vice-President Hobart is not expected to recover.

The Solicitor General has decided to begin proceedings against the coal and coke trusts.

The striking feature of yesterday's session of the McCarrill bill bribery probers was the announcement, under strong pressure, by Representative W. D. Wilson, of Westmoreland county, of the name of the man who offered him \$5000 for his vote for ex-Senator Quay. This man, Mr. Wilson swore, was John R. Byrne, of Scottsdale, who last fall was the Republican candidate for State Senator in the Fayette Greene district.

## Philipsburg Enthusied.

The good citizens of Philipsburg have been considerably aroused during the past month on the question of booming their town. Public meetings have been held, committees appointed and money subscribed for the purpose of booming the town and soliciting the establishment of new industries. They are hustlers out there.

Go to Ishler & Woodring, next door to Schofield's saddler shop, for garden seeds, Johnston binders and mowers, horse rakes, Buckeye cultivators, drills, pumps, gasoline and traction engines, and threshers, Acme wagons—steel and wood frame, barrows, lawn mowers, buggies, spring wagons, sections for all kinds of binders and mowers and binder twine. If

A full line of shirt waists from socets, and upwards and a line of nice silk waists at Aikens' Store.

## FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

I would not move in winter, When the ground is white with snow, I would not move in springtime, When the nodding lilacs blow; I would not move in summer, When the sun's rays sear the town, When the dust is thick wherever One proposes to sit down, Oh! I would not move in Autumn, When the leaves begin to fall; And, in fact, if I could help it, I wouldn't move at all.

With the bootblack it is either rain or shine. Kindness wins almost anything worth having.

All men may be liars, but all liars are not men.

Some girls complete their education by marrying.

A woman can make a pie out of anything she wants to.

If a man has talent he can make use of another's genius.

The homelier a girl is the more help she is to her mother.

Some heroes are proud of the scars they left on others.

The man who does the pushing is not necessarily behind the world.

It's quite natural for a banker to take lots of interest in his business.

The meanest people on earth fancy that they are better than others.

A budding genius doesn't always turn out to be the flower of the family.

If a girl will not marry when she may she may not marry when she will.

Some marriages are failures and some are but temporary embarrassments.

The man who makes a donkey of himself seldom boasts of being self-made.

Too many men make the mistake of believing they are smarter than other people.

The world is wide enough for all, but it's not deep enough for some college graduates.

She—Why does a woman take a man's name when she gets married? He—Why does she take everything else he has?

## Professional People.

Life is full of trials—and the lawyers are glad of it.

The girl who poses for artists always leads a model life.

Some doctors take life easy—others take whatever they can.

An artist is not a success until he can draw a check on a bank.

A theatrical manager is always known by the company he keeps.

Lawyers are men who work with a will. Doctors often provide the way.

It is not the dress that makes the chorus-girl, it's the tights.

When a man pays a doctor's bill, he often wonders if life is worth living.

The cut rate druggist does his best to bring sickness within the reach of all.

Fame has its disadvantages. It never lets a man's creditors get off his trail.

A test case is one that is brought to see how much the lawyers can make out of it.

A dentist is a man who pulls people's teeth. A lawyer is one who pulls their legs.

Writer's cramp is a very common affliction; they are always cramped for money.

When it comes to making a long story short, the editor's blue pencil is strictly in it.

When doctors disagree, they can always unite in attributing it to heart failure.

The physician is the man who recommends a change—and then takes all you have.

Homeopaths tell us that like cures like—but they fail to suggest a cure for dislike.

Doctors used a lance to bleed their patients in olden times. Now a lance is unnecessary.

The criminal judge may be a man of few words, but he isn't always a man of short sentences.

The editor swears to the circulation of his paper, and the advertisers do the rest of the swearing.

If some play-wrights would vaccinate their plays before putting them on the stage, they might take.

Malaria is a malady the doctor says you have got, when he doesn't know what is the matter with you.

A dog may not be a star performer, but when he travels with a blind man he is always given a leading part.

About two-thirds of a doctor's bill is for his trouble in guessing at your complaint.

Doctors often disagree, but they don't disagree half as much as their medicines do.

Many a thief goes to prison because he neglects to steal enough to see a first-class lawyer.

After a man has had occasion to employ a first-class lawyer, it is useless to tell him that talk is cheap.

Every singer in a quartette can point out three good reasons why the organization isn't absolutely perfect.