

# The Centre Democrat.

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## “EMBALMED ROTTEN BEEF”

It Was Furnished to Our Soldiers During the War

### GENERAL MILES SUSTAINED

How a Persecuted Army Officer Has Put His Defamers in Disgrace—Whitewash Was Too Thin—The Truth Gradually Coming to Light.

It matters not what may be the report of the military commission inquiring into the complaints made against the quality of beef furnished to the army in Cuba and Porto Rico, as the question is absolutely and irrevocably settled in the judgment of the nation. The evidence has been multiplied and conclusive in sustaining the report of General Miles, complaining of the quality of the beef furnished the army as unfitted for use. Instead of strengthening the soldiers it enervated them by sickness, and did more to impair the efficiency of the army than the inhospitable climate and caused more deaths than the guns of the enemy.

No inquiry has ever been made by a military tribunal that attracted the general attention of the country as did the present inquiry into the quality of the beef furnished to the army. There were 200,000 soldiers in camp and field coming from every section of the land, and thus local interest was quickened in the issue from eastern to western sea.

The testimony has been carefully scanned from day to day and there is a settled judgment among the intelligent and dispassionate citizens that the reports of General Miles have been more than sustained, and that the war department was guilty of criminal negligence or worse in providing rations for our soldiers. It was believed until lately that the allegation of General Miles that chemicals had been applied to the beef to protect it from putrefaction, and that this experiment was being made by the war department, might not be clearly established. But the country has been startled within the last few days—first, by a letter from Armour & Co. to the commissary general proposing the very method of preserving the beef that General Miles alleged; and next, the testimony of the author of this method of preserving beef and his relations with Armour & Co.

Had General Miles failed in establishing this most vital fact he would have been liable to censure under the technical military rules for not stating the precise truth, but he now stands before the country absolutely vindicated in every charge that he has made, and it is not in the power of the government to hinder his complete vindication before the patriotic people of the country.

There is hardly an intelligent citizen in any section of the United States who has not carefully studied the evidence presented to the military board now about closing its investigation of the army beef, and no evasion of the issue on technical points by the board and no cunning or power of contractors, can excuse the government in refusing to accept the truth as it is clearly and undeniably presented by the overwhelming weight of testimony.

The people now know that the contracts made by General Egan and the war department for supplying beef to the army were either corruptly or ignorantly made by the war authorities, and General Egan stands today convicted of falsehood in declaring that he had no knowledge whatever of any process for embalming or otherwise preserving beef. It was on this point that he excused, or attempted to excuse himself for his most disgraceful eruption of blackguardism in his attack upon General Miles. He declared General Miles to be a liar because Miles had charged that the experiment of protecting beef was being made by the government, when in point of fact, as is now clearly proved, the experiment was made and General Egan was advised of it by the letter of Armour & Co. confessing it. Unless the war department has abandoned all idea of maintaining dignity and discipline in the army, General Egan must be again court-martialed and again dishonorably dismissed from the service.

The beef question is settled and it will now go into history that through the ignorance or corruption of the war department, our soldiers in a most inhospitable climate, were furnished with the worst possible food to maintain their strength and health. The canned beef was, to a very large extent at least, not only unfitted for use but dangerous to the health of the soldiers, and the refrigerated beef was worse.

What the soldiers most needed was not supplied to them, and the result was that after a few weeks of field service before Santiago the appalling report was made that not over ten per cent. of the entire

army was fit for active duty. Many lives of brave men were thus sacrificed and the country now knows precisely who must answer for this fearful wrong to thousands of soldiers broken in health, and to the sorrowing friends of many others whose lives were sacrificed wholly by the incompetency or debauchery of the war department.—Times.

### BLOOD SHED IN SAMOA.

Mataafa's Men Laid in Wait for Our Soldiers.

Apia, Samoa, April 12.—The American and British sailors were ambushed by Mataafa's warriors and were forced to retreat.

In the onslaught seven were killed, among them being Lieutenant Lonsdale and Ensign Monahan, of the cruiser Philadelphia.

A British lieutenant was also killed.

### JUDGE BIDDLE DECIDES

That the Bank Books in Quay's Case are Admissible.

Philadelphia, April 12.—Judge Biddle decided today that the books in the People's bank case, against which the attorneys for Quay fought so hard, shall be admitted. He defers his decision on the "red book" until that book is offered.

### LOOTED A STORE.

J. M. Bunnell, the organ man, some years ago left Bellefonte and opened a music store in Philipsburg. Recently he opened a larger store at Johnstown and left the Philipsburg store in charge of O. J. Sherman and J. D. McKinney. A shortage was discovered in their manner of doing business of about \$150 which they agreed to make good. Instead they sold out the stock at a sacrifice, compromised accounts to get their hands on ready cash, shipped several valuable instruments away and with their wives departed, leaving Mr. Bunnell in the lurch for about \$1000. They were traced to Buffalo, N. Y., and some of the goods were recovered. They were arrested and brought to Philipsburg where at a hearing were bound over for April court and on Wednesday evening were landed in the county jail.

### Clinton County Coal Lands.

The negotiations that have been pending for a long time for the lease of several thousands acres of land of A. H. Mann, W. A. Simpson and the Noyes estate in Leidy township Clinton county, were closed Friday and all the papers relating to the transaction have been signed and entered for record in the office of the register and recorder for that county.

The agreement for the lease as recorded gives to the operation to be known as the Clinton Coal Company the right to mine all the coal upon or under six tracts of land in Leidy township aggregating 4,486 acres. The corporation will develop the lands and agree to mine 100,000 tons of coal annually during the two years beginning October 1st, 1899, and at least 150,000 annually after October 1st, 1901. The lands which the syndicate have leased are situated along Kettle Creek near Westport and the enterprise means much for that place, as well as for all of that section of Clinton county.

### JAIL DELIVERY.

The condition of the Clearfield county jail is no joke, though the complaints of its unsafe condition have become something of a chestnut. There are, it is said, stonier fields plowed in Clearfield county than that jail wall, and last Tuesday night two of the prisoners, Edward Viard and James Morris, dug through the walls, lowered themselves to the ground and made good their escape. They were not missed until some time the next day and had several hours the start before pursuit was begun.

### Releases Him.

The new bankrupt law allows a man who is in debt to go into bankruptcy. His property is divided among his creditors and though it may not pay five cents on the dollar, it releases him from ever afterward having to pay his old debts. The bankrupt may again start in business and make a fortune, but his former creditor has no claim by law against him.

### No License.

In deciding a case at Allentown on Tuesday, Judge Allbright decided that under the Interstate Commerce law cities cannot collect a mercantile license fee from a transient dealer whose principal place of business is outside of the state. This holds good against boroughs also.

### For A Soldiers' Home.

It is reported that the Pennsylvania railroad company has sold the grounds and buildings of the famous Mountain house, Cresson, to the United States government which, it is said, proposes to establish there a home for disabled soldiers of the Spanish American war.

## SHOCKING ACCIDENT

Peculiar Manner of Samuel Graham's Death.

### A FATAL BLAST OF DYNAMITE

In An Oak Tree Hurlt a Piece 120 Feet, Striking Him On the Neck and Chest Causing Instant Death—A Prominent Young Business Man.

Last Thursday morning while our press was running and not a moment to spare a telephone message was received from Philipsburg bearing the news of the sudden death of Samuel M. Graham by an explosion of dynamite. The following are the particulars of the sad affair: S. M. Rhule, with Selden Pollard, were eye witnesses of the accident.

Mr. Graham, Mr. Rhule and Pollard were clearing a wagon road on the hill back of Troy Mine to a point where it is intended to locate powder houses. A large oak tree stood in the way, and as it was considered necessary to remove it on account of danger from lightning a shot of six sticks of dynamite was placed in the auger hole in the tree. Mr. Graham desired to have a kodak picture of the explosion and with his camera stood about 120 feet away from the tree, not ordinarily considered a dangerous position for the size of the charge. When the dynamite exploded it tore away a chunk of the solid wood weighing about 15 or 20 pounds, and measuring about 18 inches in length by four inches square, was torn from the shattered oak and hurled with lightning velocity through the air, and unluckily in the direction of where Graham was standing with his camera. The sliver struck him lengthwise, one end of it striking him on the chin and crushing it and tearing a hole in his throat and the other part crushing his breast. The poor fellow died almost instantly. One of his thumbs was almost torn off and his knuckles were bruised.

Samuel M. Graham was the only son and child of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Graham, and was born in the town twenty-nine years ago. In business he was associated with the firm of Graham, Herd & Co., hardware dealers, and wholesale agents of explosives. Mr. Graham was a member of the local Masonic fraternity, and was also connected with the Philipsburg camp of the Sons of Veterans. Last summer he was one of the first volunteers in the army, joining Co. B, of the Fifth Regiment, and in which he became a corporal.

The interment took place on Saturday afternoon and was attended by about a dozen members of Co. B. of this place and some twenty members of the company in Philipsburg. Services were held in the Episcopal church.

### OTHER DEATHS

JAMES STINE—On Monday evening James Stine died at the home of his mother Mrs. George Stive, of Pleasant Gap. He was taken ill with typhoid pneumonia which terminated in congestion of the brain. April 21st, he would have reached his 21st year. He leaves to mourn his departure, his mother, a sister Miss Mary and two brothers Ernest and Harry. The deceased was a member of company B, having enlisted when the recent war with Spain broke out. The interment takes place this Thursday morning, in the Lutheran cemetery at Pleasant Gap. A detachment of Company B will attend the funeral.

W. E. BURCHFIELD—Died at his home in Philipsburg, on Wednesday afternoon, after an illness extending over a year or more, with diabetes. The body will be brought to Bellefonte and the interment will take place on Friday afternoon. There survive him his wife who was a daughter of S. T. Shugert, dec'd, and three children, Mary S., Nancy L., and William, all grown.

Mr. Burchfield was about 63 years of age and for a number of years was engaged in the mercantile business at that place. He was elected on the democratic ticket as register of this county twice, in '75 and '78. Mr. Burchfield was an old soldier.

MRS. ALVIVA W. WAGNER—Deceased was the widow of the late David Wagner, and after an extended illness died at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. J. L. Spangler at this place, on Friday afternoon; age 76 years, 11 months and 15 days. For over four years she had been in declining health. The interment took place on Monday afternoon, her pastor Dr. Stephens, of the Methodist church officiating. She was the mother of six children, three of whom are living, viz: Mrs. John Harris, Mrs. Jack McCellan, of Pittsburg and Mrs. J. L. Spangler, of Bellefonte.

Spain at last has peace; but this Government has still to fight for it in the Philippines.

### ONE DOLLAR AND MILEAGE.

For School Directors Who Attend Triennial Conventions.

School directors who will attend the approaching convention to elect a county superintendent in this city, on Tuesday, May 2nd, will be paid one dollar each and in addition, three cents for every mile traveled going to and returning from the place where the election is held. These amounts will be paid the directors by the treasurers of the respective districts on presentation of the proper vouchers by the attending directors.

The same act, which was approved by Governor Stone March 18, 1899, also states that it shall be deemed a misdemeanor for any candidate to pay or cause to be paid any part of the expenses of any director who shall attend these conventions. The penalty for such a violation is a fine of not less than \$50 nor more than \$300.

### Clearfield County's Almshouse.

Editor M. L. McQuown, of the Clearfield Raftman's Journal, has written a letter to the Bellefonte Gazette on the advantages that have resulted from the establishment of a country house, or almshouse in Clearfield county. He states that the tax payers by a large majority voted at the election on February, 1894, for the creation of an almshouse. This was the third time a vote had been taken on the question. The home was completed in December, 1895, and since that it has sheltered from 115 to 150 paupers. The average cost of maintaining the poor in Clearfield county under the old system of district overseers, was \$55,000 per year. Since the home has been in operation the cost was \$26,000 the first year, \$24,000 the second and \$20,000 the third year.

### Will be Hanged.

George Owens, formerly a resident of Altoona, will be hanged at San Quentin, Cal., on the 21st inst. The crime for which Owens will pay with his life was the killing of his wife at Madesta, Cal., last December a year ago. Owens' daughter wanted to marry a young blacksmith and he objected to the match. Mrs. Owens sided with her daughter and is a fit of anger Owens killed her and attempted to kill the girl, but only succeeded in wounding her. Owens worked for the railroad company in Altoona, but about 22 years ago went west with his family. His wife was a Miss Smith, sister of J. L. Smith, proprietor of the Belmont hotel, Altoona.

### LATE NEWS.

Vice President Hobart is not expected to recover from his serious illness. The Philippines are being driven in wild route by Gen. Lawton.

### THE SENATORIAL CONTEST.

The ballot for United States Senator in the joint assembly Wednesday was as follows: Quay..... 96 Jenks..... 76 Stone..... 52 As 112 votes were necessary to a choice Quay still lacked seventeen votes of sufficient to elect him.

### NO ENCAMPMENT.

It has been learned that there will be no encampment of National Guard this year. The Spanish war and the organization of the new guard has so confused matters, as well as put the state to so great expense that there are no funds for the annual encampment this year.

### Another Job.

Owing to an increase in business at the Moshannon National bank, Philipsburg, it has been necessary to employ another clerk, and J. Albert Walton has been selected to fill the position. Mr. Walton was the former postmaster of that place.

### Smallpox at Altoona.

Three cases of smallpox have thus far been reported in Altoona. All are under strict quarantine.

### Do you pay your subscription?

Spring fever is hard to work. Straw hats have put in an appearance. Shower bath weather may be expected.

Judging by the new woman's dress she wants to be a self-made man. A fellow generally has to run if he wants to keep ahead in his walk of life.

It's funny that a fellow should feel put out when he finds himself taken in. A strange thing about the Faith Curists' doctrine is that it's no doctrine.

No matter how leisurely a doctor may plod through his earthly career you never catch him boasting that he takes life easy.

When a man discovers that he has made a mistake he begins to look around for some one to blame it on.

## DEMOCRATIC DELEGATES

How the Apportionment Will Be Made This Year

### 85 DELEGATES IN CONVENTION

A Loss of Four Delegates—Where the Changes Are—How Apportionments Are Made—To Be Approved By the Democratic County Committee, April 24th.

Monday eve., 24, the Democratic county committee will assemble at headquarters, in Bellefonte, pursuant to a call of County Chairman, J. K. Johnston, to attend the various matters of importance. Among other things that will receive their attention is the delegate apportionment of the county, based upon the vote cast at the gubernatorial election, last year.

According to the party rules one delegate is awarded for every 50 democratic votes cast in the county. The excess vote in each district, which is always less than fifty, makes it necessary to award the surplus delegates to those districts which have the highest excess vote, or nearest to fifty. The apportionment will be based on the vote cast for Geo. A. Jenks, in '98. The old apportionment was based on the vote cast for Wm. J. Bryan, for President.

In the following table is given the vote of the various precincts for Jenks. Next column is the result of dividing by 50 and the amount over. In the third column is the number of delegates each district should receive. In the last column is the present (old) apportionment of delegates in force since 1895:

Election District	Jenks '98	Vote	Divis'n	'99	'98
Bellefonte, N.W.	130	3	3	2	2
" " S.W.	161	3	12	3	2
" " W.W.	61	1	12	1	2
Centre Hall boro.	91	1	41	2	2
Howard boro.	41	1	1	1	1
Stilesburg boro.	29	0	6	0	1
Milheim boro.	119	2	19	2	2
Philipsburg 1st W.	57	1	7	1	1
" " 2nd W.	116	2	16	2	2
" " 3rd W.	68	1	13	1	1
South Philipsburg boro.	70	1	14	1	1
Star College boro.	87	1	37	1	1
Clintonville boro.	34	0	7	0	1
Benner NP	63	1	12	1	2
" " NP	7	0	20	0	1
Boggs NP	31	0	6	0	1
" " NP	47	1	9	1	1
" " NP	74	1	23	1	2
Burnside twp.	29	0	6	0	1
" " NP	41	0	15	0	1
Curtin twp.	43	0	9	0	1
Ferguson NP	157	3	7	3	3
" " NP	53	1	8	1	1
Gregg NP	112	2	22	2	2
" " NP	118	2	23	2	2
Haines NP	41	0	8	0	1
" " NP	118	2	23	2	2
Half Moon twp.	33	0	7	0	1
Harris twp.	141	2	28	2	2
Clinton twp.	74	1	14	1	1
Clinton twp.	53	1	10	1	1
Liberty twp.	63	1	12	1	1
Marion twp.	78	1	15	1	1
Miles NP	58	1	11	1	1
" " NP	142	2	28	2	2
" " NP	67	1	13	1	1
Patton twp.	65	1	13	1	1
Peen twp.	197	3	39	3	3
Howard twp.	196	3	39	3	3
Potter NP	171	3	34	3	3
" " NP	24	0	5	0	1
Rush NP	78	1	15	1	1
" " NP	74	1	14	1	1
Snow Shoe NP	42	0	8	0	1
Spring NP	48	0	9	0	1
" " NP	123	2	24	2	2
" " NP	61	1	12	1	1
Taylor twp.	22	0	4	0	1
Union twp.	27	0	5	0	1
Walker NP	44	0	8	0	1
" " NP	79	1	15	1	1
" " NP	70	1	14	1	1
Worth twp.	42	0	8	0	1
Total	4211	85	89		

### A Unique Case.

Besides furnishing a remarkable case of a regular term of court with no jury trials, for either criminal or civil cases, Union county now comes to the front with another happening, which we suppose is without parallel in the history of this, or perhaps any other county, says the Lew-Isburg Journal. At the March term objections were filed to the report of an auditor, by an opposing attorney, that the fee charged by the auditor for the services were too small, and should be increased. The Court gravely sustained the objection, and the auditor increased his bill to the amount suggested by the attorney on the opposite side. The amount charged in the first instance was below the amount usually allowed in such cases.

Centre county attorneys will please make note of the above.

### A Law of the Sixteenth Century.

Girls how would you have liked to have lived under the laws of English parliament of the sixteenth century? As for instance the following act passed in 1670: "All women of whatever age, rank, profession or degree, virgins maids or widows, that shall from and after the passing of this act, impose upon etrap into matrimony any of His Majesty's male subjects by scents, paints, cosmetics, washes, artificial teeth, false hair, Spanish wool, iron stays, high-heeled shoes, or bolstered hips, shall incur the penalty of the law now in force against witchcraft, sorcery and such like misdemeanors, and that the marriage, upon conviction, shall stand null and void."

### Erecting Another Kiln.

The Mill Hill brick works are erecting another large kiln at Mill Hill. The Altoona city council have adopted the Mill Hill brick company's bricks for all crossing and sewer inlets to be built during 1899.

### FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

#### Points Up to Date.

To err is masculine: to forgive is feminine. It is the revolving fan that gathers no flies. One coat of tar and feathers will last a man a life time.

People who live in stone houses should not throw glasses. It is a wise man who never puts a gift cigar in his mouth.

A windy fellow always makes one pneumatically tired. Heat travels faster than cold. Anybody can catch cold.

To-morrow is always the happiest day in most peoples' lives. In time of peace, prepare for war articles in the magazines.

A kettle sings before it boils, and a boil sings before it breaks. There are times when it is cheaper to pay rent than to move.

Some people manage to talk a great deal and say very little. The corkscrew is often mightier than either the pen or sword.

Want of principal is the principle want of a great many people. It is a lonely day in a yellow dog's life when nobody kicks him.

Every dog has his day—but the cat has a monopoly of the nights. The young widow is not always as mournful as she is dressed.

Ignorance of the law excuses no one—except the man with a pull. An amateur that can sing and won't sing, ought to have a medal.

The turtle may be slow, but he usually gets there in time for the soup. The beautiful snow often covers a multitude of disgraceful side-walks.

An ounce of keeping your mouth shut is worth a pound of explanation. The same opportunities make a hero of one man, and an ass of another.

Trouble is about the only thing some people can borrow without security. It never occurs to a boy that he will some day know as little as his father.

Wise men change their minds occasionally; but fools haven't any to change. Business covers a multitude of transactions just out of the reach of the law.

Some people, like hens, can never find anything where they laid it yesterday. Common sense is a good thing in its way, but it has broken very few records.

The paving material of hell consists of good intentions and unpaid election bets. Even the wind does whistle, it is forbearing enough to avoid the popular airs.

It is useless to worry; but it is useless to tell a man that it is useless to worry. Fleeshy people would undoubtedly fall off a great deal if they would try bicycling.

When you have a hair-raising tale to tell, always spring it on a baldheaded man. One-half of a man's energy is wasted. Only the down strokes count in chopping wood.

Economy is a good thing but it is poor policy to set a hen on one egg, to save eggs. All the world's a lunatic asylum, and all the men and women are more or less insane.

Care will kill a cat, but if you don't care, a boot jack or a gun is just as efficient. Some men who fool with a bent pin can't see the point—but they feel it just the same.

Man sometimes fancies that sin is taken out of him when he has lost only his conceit. They have introduced hugging societies in Idaho, to swell the church treasury, with the following scale of prices: Girls under 16, 13 cents for a hug of two minutes or 10 cents for a short squeeze; from 16 to 20 years, 50 cents; school marm, 40 cents; another man's wife, \$1.00; widows, according to looks, from 9 cents to \$2.00; old maids, three cents each or two for five cents and no limit of time. Preachers are not charged. Editors pay in advance and are not allowed to participate until everyone else is through.