

The Centre Democrat.

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INDUSTRIES HERE AND THERE

More News of That Projected Big Pottery Plant

THE BIG BRIDGE COMPLETED

A Full Description of the Magnificent Structure—Tested and Found Satisfactory in Every Way—The Railroad Finished and the Furnace to be Started Next Monday.

Some of our esteemed contemporaries intimated last week that the article which appeared in this paper in relation to the probable establishment of a large pottery plant here was merely a myth. Had the editors of such papers taken the trouble to interview any one of the parties referred to they might have secured corroboration of the facts. During the past week a letter was received from the company, which is located at Trenton, N. J., urging the parties here to secure positively, and at the earliest date possible, options on all the available land on which the kaolin is found. The company desires to at once send men to develop the various deposits with a view to an immediate erection of the plant here. The gentlemen who have interested themselves in securing this new industry for Bellefonte give assurance that there is not a shadow of doubt about its being located here.

In addition to the securing of the Pottery the other important industrial centre just now is the plant of the Bellefonte Furnace Company. The new steel viaduct over Spring Creek has at last been completed, the last rivet being put in place Tuesday morning. It is a magnificent piece of engineering skill and first class workmanship. It was just the 21st day of May when Major Richter and George Forney the engineers in charge of the work completed their drawings of the bridge, and ten days later work on the building of the stone abutments was begun. And now, in seven weeks, the bridge is completed, a model of modern genius. The viaduct is constructed entirely of rolled steel, in what is known as the box-work pattern. It is 707 feet in length and 23 feet up in the air at the highest point. The spans vary in length from 30 feet girders to the truss over the Pennsylvania railroad which is 111 feet long. The total weight of the bridge could not be obtained but the truss alone weighs 135,000 pounds. The viaduct has a grade of 3 per cent. from the east end to the truss and 1 per cent. from there to the west end. Its curvature is 12 deg. to truss compounded to 5 deg. to completion. In capacity it was built to stand the strain of two 100-ton engines coupled together pulling a load of three thousand pounds to the foot. The bridge was tested Monday when the two big locomotives of the Central Railroad of Pennsylvania were run across it. Engine No. 4 was in charge of Edward Whittaker, engineer, and William T. Royer, fireman, and engine No. 5 had Louis Lonsberry at the throttle and Joe Cushing firing. There was no noticeable give in the girder spans while the truss gave but one-half inch, although allowance had been made for a give of two inches. It is needless to say that the railroad and furnace companies, the bridge company and engineers in charge feel thoroughly satisfied with the work as completed. The bridge has all been painted red. The Phoenix Bridge Company, of Phoenixville, were the builders and the estimated cost of same as it stands completed from \$25,000 to \$30,000.

Yesterday the railroad gang completed the laying of track out to the furnace and in a few days this mile of road-bed will be ballasted up as smooth as possible. Stock for the furnace is now arriving daily so that already there is a large supply on hand. It was intended to start the fires to-day but owing to a delay in securing several castings this could not be done, but the plant will be blown in next Monday for sure and then, once again, the old Collins furnace will be a scene of activity, and we trust, a source of profit to its owners and operators.

Admiral Cervera Acquitted.

The result of the Spanish court-martial in the acquittal of Admiral Cervera and the officers of the fleet destroyed in Santiago Bay by Uncle Sam's North Atlantic Squadron of iron clads will be received with real pleasure and satisfaction by the American people. Admiral Cervera's gentlemanly deportment and kindly disposition so obviously manifested during his brief sojourn as the guest of the Nation, struck a popular cord in the hearts of our people and the favorable termination of his court-martial is sure to please his American admirers.

If one were to judge by the Philadelphia Inquirer he would conclude that President McKinley was running in Centre county for delegate to the State Convention.

A TON AND A HALF OF GOLD.

One of the Largest Cargoes Brought From Klondike on the Queen.

There arrived in Seattle last week, from the north, the Steamship Queen, with the heaviest gold cargo received this year. The gold was actually in sight, and it took half a dozen express wagons to transport it from the steamer to the assay office and the banks. There was nearly a ton and a half of the gold in the possession of about twenty-five Klondikers.

The richest man to come out this year is J. B. Heacock, who brought 1,000 pounds of dust, worth \$250,000. He is an old-timer on the Yukon, and the gold represents the output of a rich Bonanza claim for two seasons. John Wilkinson, of San Francisco, had \$50,000. He was the first man to stake a claim on the famous Eldorado Creek after George Carmack discovered Bonanza. Of the two, Eldorado has proved the richer. Every year Wilkinson brings out a big sack of dust. He makes heavy investments on the inside, and will be a millionaire before the claim runs out.

Other rich holders were Joe De Faulby San Francisco, 300 pounds; John Rigby, \$20,000; Pat Moran, a New York sporting man, \$50,000; Donald McDonald, brother of Alex McDonald, king of the Klondike, \$25,000; Mrs. McKay, San Francisco, \$10,000; Dr. Cassinhan and Frank Davis, Winnipeg, \$10,000; H. A. Weld, Minneapolis, \$5,000.

A San Francisco party, comprising T. J. Belcher, Christopher Sonnbom and Sam Lanquan, broke all records by traveling from Dawson to Seattle in ten days. They left on the evening of June 30, reached Bennett City on July 6 as a golden spike was being driven in the last rail in White Pass on the Yukon railway, and crossed the mountains on the first train. From Skagway to Juneau they took the steamer Wolcott and joined the Queen there as she returned from an excursion run. They brought 400 pounds of dust and other baggage. The best time last year was twenty-five days.

The biggest clean-up in the history of the Klondike is over and dust by the ton is stored in Dawson awaiting shipment by the lower river. It is said that the output will be double that of last year and many confirm the statement that it will surely reach \$20,000,000. Much gold from last season's output will come out this year. Over \$2,000,000 has already reached Seattle by the up-river route and \$5,000,000 is on the way from St. Michaels on the steamers Roanoke, Garonne and Alliance. The second trips of these vessels will bring the bulk of the output.

Big gold strikes are reported from the upper Hootlingqua river, and a stampede is under way. Summer work near Eagle City, on the American side, has uncovered rich diggings. An American has made a rich strike of placer gold on Goat Island, Lake Atlin.

A serious accident sooner or later will be reported from Five Finger Rapids. Every one of the dozen boats on the Dawson route has had narrow escapes. The big steamer Canadian punched several holes in her bottom and narrowly escaped going down in deep water. The Victorian lost part of her hurricane deck and many tons of cargo while shooting the rapids.

A party of congressmen, headed by Seno E. Payne, of the Joint High Commission, returned on the steamer. Congressman Payne refused to talk on the Alaska boundary dispute, but admitted that he had investigated the situation while in the north. He says the possibilities in the way of the development of Alaska's mineral resources and fisheries are incalculable, and every honest effort should be made to hold as much of the territory as is rightly ours.

Congressman Steele, of Indiana, does not believe that Uncle Sam and John Bull will ever come to blows over the country. At the same time, he is not inclined to surrender a foot of American soil. He said: "We are too big ever to go to war over the Alaska boundary dispute. The subject will in time shape itself and become settled. I realize that we have a great country in Alaska and feel pretty sure that congress is not going to give any of it away."

Congressman Hull, of Iowa, said: "We have nothing to concede to Great Britain in the way of territory. We will not go behind the original treaty by which we acquired all the rights of Russia. Therefore we will accept nothing less than the territory accorded to us under the treaty."

Lieut. Pague Suicides.

Lieut. S. S. Pague, who from '87 to '90 was commandant at the State College, was found dead in a boarding house in Chicago, July 3rd. The lieutenant was well liked at the College, but several years ago quarrelled with a fellow officer and shot at him, for which offense he was court-martialed and dismissed from the army.

LAYING PLANS FOR A BIG TIME

At the Fourth Annual Business Men's Picnic of

CENTRE & CLINTON COUNTIES

What the Executive Committee Arranged at the Meeting Monday—August 31st the Date for Picnic—Committeemen Appointed and Other Business Transacted.

Agreeable to the call of the president the executive committee of the Centre-Clinton County Business Men's Association met at the club house at Hecla Park Monday afternoon for the purpose of arranging for the fourth annual picnic. There were present Hammond Sechler, of Bellefonte, as president; J. C. Meyer, Esq., of Bellefonte, as secretary and J. Watson Fredericks, of Flemington, as treasurer. Other members present were: C. S. Whitman, Loganton; T. J. Small, Mackeyville; Captain S. H. Bennisson, Abdera; J. Will Conley, John Sourbeck, John Olewine, T. A. Shoemaker and Frank Warfield, of Bellefonte, and Oscar Miles, Millsburg, with representatives of the press from Bellefonte and Lock Haven.

The date for the coming picnic was generally discussed, during which time Messrs Warfield and Meyer called up by phone Messrs G. W. Mason, G. L. Morelock and Mayor W. F. Elliot, members of the executive committee of Lock Haven, and learned that it was their opinion that a date late in August is to be preferred. Mr. Warfield stated that he had reserved the 10th and the 31st of August for the picnic. If those days were not accepted they would have to select a date in September. Upon motion, Thursday, August 31st, was fixed upon for this year's picnic.

Thomas L. Emerson, of Philipsburg, was elected a member of executive committee in place of S. S. Crissman, of Philipsburg, who had moved out of the county; Charles Sigmund, of Salona, was elected in place of L. C. Furst, of Cedar Springs, and C. H. Bressler, of Mill Hall, was elected in place of A. C. Mann, of that place.

It was also deemed expedient to increase the executive committee so as to give more general representation of the two counties and the following were added: Frank Crawford, of Centre Hall; Philip Foster, of State College; Budd Thompson, of Upper Bald Eagle; C. P. Long, of Spring Mills; C. Smith, of Pine Grove Mills; Howard Moore, of Howard; R. Hayes Stewart, of Island; Carson R. Quiggle, of Pine Station; R. N. Roberts, of Renovo; I. W. Gleason, of Gleasonston; W. T. Young, of Farrisville; G. L. Miller and J. W. Merrey, of Beech Creek.

J. Will Conley, of Bellefonte and Mayor W. F. Elliot and G. W. Mason, of Lock Haven, were appointed a committee to name sub-committees, the same to consist of one member from Centre county and two members from Clinton county. Thomas A. Shoemaker and A. C. Mingle, of Bellefonte, and G. L. Morelock, of Lock Haven, were chosen as the finance committee. The secretary was instructed to notify the newly chosen members of the executive committee of their selection. J. Watson Fredericks, Flemington; John Olewine, Bellefonte, and Oscar Miles, Millsburg, were appointed a committee on printing, and Hammond Sechler and Hon. S. R. Peale a committee to select speakers for the occasion, of which it was deemed expedient to have but two, one from each county.

The secretary was instructed to prepare a letter of invitation and send it to all business men in Centre and Clinton counties urging them to attend the picnic and use all the means in their power to make the gathering a success. Instructions were also given the secretary to extend a general invitation to the business men of Williamsport and Jersey Shore to attend.

It was decided that the sub-committees should include committees on fireworks, base ball, bicycle races, dog racing, trap shooting and music. Frank Warfield, representative of the Central railroad, stated that the company would defray the expenses of music, prizes for races, speakers' stand, etc., as heretofore done by the company. The chairman of the executive committee was empowered to fill any vacancies that might occur on any of the sub-committees. All sub-committees were instructed to report to the general committee at a date not later than July 27th, after which another meeting will be held in Lock Haven.

After the meeting the members were given the freedom of the club house and grounds. Mr. Warfield, Andrew Brockert and Solomon Peck, the genial game warden, did everything in their power to make the visitors' stay a pleasant one. A splendid supper was served in the spacious dining room which was heartily enjoyed by all present. Before

leaving the table a vote of thanks was tendered Mr. Warfield for his generous hospitality shown on this occasion. The visitors all returned home on the evening train heartily pleased with their day's outing.

THE JOHN ROHN CASE.

Sensational Disclosures Promised in the Near Future.

On April 6th, last, John Rohn, a wealthy lumberman in West Keating township, Clinton county, mysteriously disappeared from his home and though thorough search was made not the least trace of him, alive or dead, could be found. Monday's city papers contained a startlingly sensational article setting forth that detectives recently at work on the case had discovered convincing evidence that Rohn had been foully murdered and intimation was made that prominent residents of Clinton county, as well as a well-known citizen of Clearfield, would be implicated. Monday's Lock Haven Democrat had the following facts on the case:

The reports published last week as to a detective working on the John Rohn disappearance case has led to the publication of sensational articles under swell heads in some of the city papers. The reports vary widely and the statements are conflicting.

A relative of the missing man to-day stated that the reports as published are not wholly true. He admits that a detective has been working on the case, but insists that he was employed by the relatives of the family and not by the authorities. The findings of the detective have not been fully disclosed to any person, nor will not be until the complete report is handed by the officer to the relatives. But while the detective has not yet stated what his conclusions will be, he has given portions of his findings to a few of the relatives. None of these relatives have told any person as to their nature, as they have been waiting to hear other portions of the report before they take any further action in the case. The entire report of the detective will be submitted in the near future, when the facts will be given out.

One of the reports published is to the effect that a certain man of Clearfield is implicated. When asked whether this was true, the relative stated that he could not see how such a report got out. He, however, stated that he could not affirm or deny whether the statement was true or not.

The Bridegroom Missing.

DuBois has a real live sensation. A public wedding was appointed, the Courier says, for the DuBois M. E. church at 7:30 last Wednesday. The wedding couple was to be Mr. Frank Gilbert, of Joliet, Ill., and Miss Nellie Johnson, daughter of H. B. Johnson, and they were to have a large number of the bride's friends, of DuBois and Luthersburg, witness the ceremony at the church. The groom was supposed to have gone to Clearfield for the marriage license. He failed to return and the company after waiting in the church two hours and a half dispersed. The pretty, worthy girl was in a position which commanded the sympathy of the entire assembly. She grew nervous, pale and finally broke down and was taken home.

There Was no Difference.

Watsontown Record and Star: In Berwick, while a woman's card club was engaged in playing for a two dollar prize, the young sons of the woman were arrested in a hay mow, while playing cards for fifty cents a prize. The mother cried and said: "What a terrible place this town is to raise boys, anyhow." It served the boys right, however. They might have known the difference between a parlor and a hay mow and between two dollars and fifty cents as a prize.

More Work For Renovo Shops.

The Renovo shops have received notice to resume the equipping of all cars with Janney couplers. The News says: "The order calls for the equipment of between one hundred and fifty and two hundred cars each month. The total cost of equipping a car in good repair varies between fifty and sixty dollars. At this rate it may readily be seen that the pay roll of the Renovo shops will be considerably increased as long as this work continues."

Snakes are Proliferous.

Reports from the log and bark jobs up Loyalsock creek say that rattlesnakes were never so plentiful. More than fifty have been killed on Robert McEwen's loggings alone, and many woodmen are quitting their work on account of them.

As to Stamps on Checks.

Commissioner Wilson, of the Internal Revenue, has issued a circular absolutely prohibiting banks from affixing stamps to checks unstamped when presented and requiring them to return the same to the drawers.

SNOW SHOE SENSATION

Michael Merrick Still Among the Missing.

MYSTERIOUS DISAPPEARANCE

Arrayed in His Working Clothes and With Not a Cent of Money in His Pocket—No Cause Assigned for His Absence—Missing Man's Description.

Where is Michael Merrick? This is the question now more than any other of vital interest to residents of Snow Shoe, and particularly to Mrs. Annie Merrick, the wife of the missing man. Last week this paper announced briefly the mysterious disappearance of Merrick and the efforts that were being made to find him, dead or alive. Up to this time, however, not the least trace of Merrick has been obtained. The following full particulars of the affair are taken from GRIT:

Two weeks ago last Wednesday Michael Merrick, of Snow Shoe, disappeared as mysteriously as if the earth had opened and swallowed him. There is no known reason why he should leave his home and family. Questioned as to the probable cause of the sudden and mysterious disappearance of her husband, Mrs. Merrick said there was no cause whatever upon which he could base an excuse for leaving home. There was no trouble in his family, and so far as can be learned there was none outside. His wife says he was not in debt nor pressed by creditors. Not to the knowledge of his wife or friends was he involved in any trouble that would lead him to avoid the presence of any person or persons.

Merrick was employed at the Lehigh Valley works at Sugar Camp. On the morning of the day on which he disappeared he went to work as usual, being conveyed there in a buggy, with his 15-year-old son, by Mrs. Merrick. About 7:30 a. m. he complained of severe pains in his head, and started ostensibly for home. Later he was seen going toward the Beech Creek railroad. Since then there have been no tidings of the missing man. Merrick was subject to severe pains in his head, which sometimes became so severe as to render him unconscious for long periods. At first it was feared that becoming bewildered by pain he had strayed away on the mountain side, and becoming unconscious, had, perhaps, perished there. But the mountain sides have been pretty well scoured during the fortnight that has elapsed since Merrick was last seen, and the belief is growing that he has gone elsewhere; but why he should do so no one seems able to state.

When he disappeared Merrick had on blue overalls, white cotton flannel drawers, a dark gray shirt, old lace shoes with nails in the soles, a dark, well-worn coat and a light felt hat. He had no other clothing with him, and no money. He could have taken money with him if he had chosen to do so. He had previously given all his cash to his wife. There is no evidence to show that he had made any preparations to leave or for being away from home. Had he done so, he would no doubt have taken some better clothing along. Mrs. Merrick says his best clothing is at home. About the only article aside from his clothing that might lead to his identification was a nickel watch which he carried. It had a brass deer on the case, and was attached to a leather chain.

In height Merrick is about five feet ten inches, weighs 150 pounds, had dark blue eyes, hair and beard gray and black mixed. He is fifty years old. There are no India or other marks that might aid in finding him.

While Mrs. Merrick has no idea where her husband went, she does suspect, if he is still alive, that he may have engaged as a workman on some public works or hired out somewhere with a farmer. He has done that sort of work before, and she thinks he might be led to it again. So far as known he said nothing to any one about going away. It is the intention of Mrs. Merrick and her brother to find Merrick let it be dead or alive.

Appointed First Lieutenant.

Among the appointments of officers for the new volunteer regiments Friday was Edgar S. Stayer, son of Dr. A. S. Stayer, of Altoona, with assignment to the Twenty-eighth regiment as first lieutenant. The young man has been a member of the National Guard of Pennsylvania since 1888, and served in the hospital corps of the Fifth regiment, as a private of Company C, battalion sergeant major and adjutant of the same regiment. At present he is battalion adjutant of the Fifth. His last service in the Spanish war was as aid-de-camp and acting assistant adjutant general on the staff of General Wiley.

—Do not ring back—"Talk Back" to the telephone.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

The kissing bug goes gaily on
And seemeth to rejoice;
He kisses right and left, as if
'Twere merely Hobson's choice.

If you get a c'lock on tick is it running in debt?

A steak is none the more costly for being rare.

An unbridled passion sometimes leads to the halter.

A lot of ciphers go for naught without a figurehead.

The mule is very apt to be behind with his business affairs.

The chimney is one of the few smokers that is easily sooted.

When the chickens come home to roost they are all roosters.

Nothing upsets a waiter so badly as a failure to get tipped.

The playwright should be held responsible for his own acts.

It's singular how easily an old maid is singled out of a crowd.

You might call the newspaper artist "the editorial drawer."

It's an easy matter to chase any man you can get on the run.

A widower need not give up tobacco when he quits the weed.

It is far better to fail in a good cause than to fail in a bad one.

To the deaf and dumb man actions speak louder than words.

In the game of life the one armed man always plays a lone hand.

Every man is more or less of a gossip, but he refuses to admit it.

A woman seeks to retain her youth by keeping her age to herself.

Familiarity with a judge is pretty sure to breed contempt of Court.

The dog-catcher makes a regular business of rushing the growler.

Sometimes a lawsuit gets so worn out that it has to be patched up.

It's a burning shame when a fellow and his flame have a flare-up.

Golf is generally conceded by physicians to be a hole-some game.

The child is wiser in his simplicity than the philosopher in his wisdom.

The sexton makes a grave mistake when he digs it in the wrong lot.

Electric doorbells have done away with a great deal of wire-pulling.

About the saddest sight we ever saw was a fat man trying to look cute.

It doesn't break up the base ball pitcher to belong to a crack team.

It's terrible to be struck by lightning and shooing to be thunderstruck.

When the drop curtain goes down men go out and put down another drop.

Does her family tree have anything to do with making a woman willowy?

"I am downright nice," thought the new walk. "In fact, I'm a brick."

If the quartermaster has a better half what becomes of the other quarter?

Silence is doubly golden when you can't think of a satisfactory answer.

Always pay your milkman spot cash. Never request him to "chalk it up."

If the dressmaker sews well she will reap a good harvest in her own field.

It requires a constable to take a man up and a stenographer to take him down.

Many a man has lost a lot of money through the hole in the top of his pocket.

The sword-swallower cannot be in need of anything to sharpen his appetite.

Some people think cyclists are cranks just because they make wheels go round.

When you can't make head or tail of a man's intentions he must be a bad penny.

It is an easy matter for some real estate dealers to make mountains of molehills.

The man who is shadowed is apt to have a good deal of light cast on his character.

The man who considers his own faults has but little to say concerning the faults of others.

A charitable speech is but little credit to the man who is afraid to put his hand in his pocket.

Whenever a man happens to make a good guess he begins to talk about his good judgment.

A physician practices on his own patients. An amateur musician practices on the patience of others.

"I can't help feeling out of place here," remarked the young clerk who had just been discharged.

The youthful graduate is probably the only person who knows enough to run the affairs of the nation successfully.

The young man who can take a pretty girl for a sail and content himself with hugging the shore has wonderful self control.

The possession of too many wives is classed as bigamy, but there doesn't seem to be any term for a man's wife being too many for him.

Stupid people are entitled to eat, but not talk. Their mouths are all right as banks of deposit, but they were never intended for banks of issue.