

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, Ed. and Prop.

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SMALLPOX RUMORS EXCITE PEOPLE

A College Student Taken Ill and Goes to Altoona

HOSPITAL REFUSES ADMISSION

After Pronouncing the Ailment Smallpox— Sent Home on a Train—State Board of Health Investigate and Pronounce it Only Chickenpox.

Bellefonte and State College had a genuine smallpox scare, and Altoona and intermediate points got somewhat excited also the past week. It started with the publication of an article in the Altoona papers Saturday to the effect that a student had left State College, stopped off in Bellefonte over night on Friday, gone to the hospital at Altoona for treatment where he was refused admission when the nature of his ailment was discovered which the hospital physicians pronounced smallpox and then they sent him back on a train to his home at Blairsville. The young man was Paul Fair.

The above statement was practically correct, with one exception. The young man did stop in Bellefonte with a friend where he slept and was about the town, and called at some business places, and when this became known there was more or less uneasiness in various quarters. Relief came on Monday when a dispatch from Blairsville, Pa., the young man's home, announced that two physicians from Pittsburg, representing the State Board of Health, had been to Blairsville and examined the young man and pronounced his ailment a genuine case of chickenpox instead. There was a sigh of relief from all quarters, and the demand for vaccine squibs is again on the decline. It is fortunate that it was such a mild disease, as there was great danger to the community, had it been the contagious epidemic as first reported.

Farmer's Serious Accident.

William Zimmerman, a Nittany Valley farmer, met with a serious accident Saturday. He was hauling cord wood and while driving down a steep hill lost his balance and was thrown from the wagon face downward on the road. The wagon with its load of 3500 lbs. of cord wood passed over his right arm and across his back. Mr. Zimmerman did not lose consciousness but was able to get up and tie his horses to a tree at the side of the road. He then became so weak he could not stand and falling to the ground called Charles Johnson, who was passing, to his assistance. The unfortunate man was conveyed to his home and Dr. Fisher, of Zion, was summoned to attend him. His right arm was broken and his back and chest injured. It is thought he will recover.

Aged People at Rebersburg.

Rebersburg has a large number of aged people. The octogenarians are Mrs. Kate Bierly, 89 years; Mrs. Hettie Gramley, 84 years; Mrs. Rachel Corman, 84 years; Mrs. Annie Pehl, 82 years; Mrs. Sallie Brungart, 80 years; Mrs. Hannah Dubs, 81; William Walker, 84 years. The septuagenarians are ex-Judge Samuel Frank, 79 years; Mrs. Reuben Meyer, 78 years; Levi Strayer, 78 years; Mrs. Sallie Weaver, 77 years; Joseph Miller, 77 years; Elias Stover, 77 years; Mrs. Abbie Miller, 76 years; Mrs. Daniel Brungart, 75 years; Mrs. Susan Miller, 75 years; Ephraim Erhard, 74 years; George Weaver, 79 years.

Ex-Veterans' Association.

The Pennsylvania railroad pension plan will retire over two thirds of the members of the P. R. R. Veteran Employees' association from active work, and the others will have to retire in a year or two. It is understood that the name of the organization will be changed to ex-Veteran Employees' association, and that it will be continued. Most of these men are holding important positions and drawing large salaries, so that they will not be affected seriously in a financial way by the change. The pension plan will have a similar effect on the Veteran Employees' association on other divisions.

A Happy Editor.

A reporter dreamed one night that the editor decided for once in his career to get out a paper that was entirely satisfactory. Every item that was brought in was carried around to different houses and if any objection was raised it was killed. At 4 o'clock the paper went to press as usual, and when the patrons folded it that evening they found it nothing but a blank sheet. The editor slept sweetly that night, realizing that he had printed nothing to offend anybody, and that his paper was entirely satisfactory.

MR. BRYAN ON EXPANSION.

The Republican papers, although they take great comfort in deriding William J. Bryan's speeches, watch them closely, and are quick to catch anything like a tactical blunder. For instance, they were overjoyed the other day to find that Mr. Bryan declared he was an expansionist. Quickly they rang all the changes that he was a convert to McKinley's "criminal aggression" and "benevolent assimilation." Mr. Bryan rises to explain that he is an expansionist as all Democrats have been expansionists since the days of Jefferson. There is a patriotic and beneficent expansion of that kind, and the expansion that comes by bloodshed, oppression and conquest of the McKinley kind, as illustrated by the war invented by the President in the Philippines—a war on the Declaration of Independence and the constitution of the United States.

Mr. Bryan at Kansas City on Saturday explained the difference in the Jeffersonian and McKinley plans of expansion. One was for a homogeneous republic and the other for a heterogeneous empire. When annexation or acquisition is proposed, he said the first question is whether the people want to come in, and second, "whether they are capable of sharing in the government and destiny of this Republic." It is plain the Filipinos don't want to come in, and the Republicans proclaim they shall not come in on terms of equality. Mr. Bryan agrees with them to the extent of saying "they are not sufficiently advanced to share with us in the government of the Nation." We are all agreed on that point, but it is a question whether if annexed they will not have the constitutional right to share in the government of the Republic. "If the Philippine islands are annexed," says Mr. Bryan, "the people there must either be citizens or subjects. I am not willing to admit them as citizens, and do not believe that a Republic can have subjects, therefore I want this Nation to give them independence and then protect them from outside interference. Each proposed annexation must be considered upon its own merits, but in considering these merits the condition of the people should have more weight than geographical position or commercial advantage." We believe this embodies the common sense view of the intelligence and patriotism of the country on the general subject of expansion.

UNION CO'S MONUMENT.

At the last session of Court in Union county, the Grand Jury recommended the appropriation of \$5000 for a soldiers and sailors monument in that county. The valuation of taxable property in Centre county is \$11,547,000, while in Union county it is only \$7,977,000 which indicates that proportionately this county, to do as well as Union should appropriate about \$8,000, but the limit is \$5,000. For that reason our next Grand Jury should not hesitate about approving the recommendation of the last Grand Jury which was for an appropriation of \$5000. No matter what other counties may do, Centre county citizens should be generous in this direction.

What About Bicycle Paths?

The last legislature passed a law providing for bicycle paths along township roads, the cost to be defrayed by a tax of \$1 on each bicycle owned by others than dealers, in the county. A petition was circulated in this county and the court appointed three commissioners. As yet we have not heard of any action they have taken to put the law into force. In other counties the boards organized last Monday and are already making preparations to make the law effective and paths a success. In Lackawanna county they expect to have \$12,000 with which to build paths.

Big Parker.

D. V. Wagner, of Houserville, butchered the boss porker, on Tuesday, 19th and is now busy setting up the cigars to those who guessed out its weight. It tipped the beam at 650 lbs. and among the close guessers were auditor Wm. Tibbens, who predicted 660 lbs. for its carcass and his son, who guessed exactly the right figures.

Mr. Wagner is one of the county's strong prohibitionists and if he could fatten up his party's vote like he can porkers it would be a factor worth considering at elections.

District Institute.

The teachers of the district composed of Centre Hall boro, Potter township, State College boro, College, Ferguson and Harris townships, will hold a local institute in Grange Arcadia, Centre Hall, on Friday and Saturday January 19th and 20th of this week. On Friday evening Dr. Perrine, of the faculty of Bucknell University, Lewisburg, will deliver his famous lecture on the subject, "Some Proverbs.—Not Solomon's."

RESULT OF FIRST COUNT

Over Six Hundred Votes for the Cornish Organ

SOME INCORRECT RUMORS

That Are Albeit Corrected—A Brand New Instrument And Not Second Hand—The Result of the Judges Count Given—Five Voted For.

On Wednesday evening the first count of coupons for the Cornish chapel organ was made by the two judges appointed: Messrs. Boyd A. Musser and Arthur B. Kimpport. In all there were 665 votes in the box divided as follows:
Union Sunday School, Zion..... 154
Lutheran Church, Pleasant Gap..... 249
M. E. Church, Roland..... 194
M. E. Church, Howard..... 8
Reformed Church, Pine Grove Mills..... 60
(NOTE—23 votes for Unionville Presbyterian church arrived after the official count was made and will be included in second count.)

A great many people are holding their coupons to see who will try to get the instrument, so that in the future there will be more votes cast.

During the past week rumors have reached this office that some parties have an idea that the Cornish Organ which will be given away by us is a second-hand instrument. How such a rumor should get afloat we cannot understand. There is no occasion for it, but nevertheless it is the case. To any one who may be interested in this matter let us say that the organ has been on exhibition in this office for over a month and in that time a great many persons have inspected it. We have the original freight bill from the factory, at Washington, N. J., as well as the receipt of the firm of Cornish & Co., accompanied by a 25 year guarantee, all of which will definitely prove that we are not attempting to palm off an old instrument. The rumor really should not be dignified by this contradiction, for we believe that the public has confidence in our proposition.

Again, let us say that this is not a cheap instrument either, but one of the very best organs turned out by the well known factory of Cornish & Co., and we are proud to show it to all who will call for that purpose. If anyone desires a complete description of this instrument we urge them to write to the firm of Cornish & Co., New Jersey, for the catalogue and on page 14 will find a complete description of the same; also on page 10 and 11 will find a full description of the "New Orchestral Multitone Action" in this instrument which makes it superior to almost any other instrument on the market to-day. If you are thinking of putting an instrument in your home you can save money by corresponding with this firm.

"Not a Cent."

Mr. Carnegie has declared against imperialism, and denies that he had promised to subscribe \$50,000 to the Republican National convention fund. On the contrary he says the Republican party will not get one cent from him, if it declares for the policy of imperialism. In an interview at his home, in New York, a few days ago he is reported to have said among other things:

"Not a cent to imperialism—not a cent to renegade Americanism."

"My position of these questions has been made clear.

"My mind is open, but my purse is closed. If the Republican party is true to the principles that have made this country great, then I would subscribe. But not if the platform commits the party to a policy to which I stand unalterably and uncompromisingly opposed."

Mr. Carnegie's grey eyes flashed with earnestness as he spoke. He emphasized every word.

This will not be pleasant news for the Republican party."

This is "Awfulness."

One of our exchanges takes the floor to remark that next year we may expect to read something like the following in the daily papers: "About 10 o'clock this morning a horseless wagon loaded with cowless milk collided with a brainless rider on a chainless wheel. The luckless wheelman was badly injured and being homeless, he was taken in a horseless cab to the home for the friendless, where his death was painless in an hour or so."

Primary Election Officers.
The primary election law of this state requires all primary election officers to take and subscribe to an oath before entering upon their duties. There are many places in which no attention has been paid to this requirement.

Sunbury Was the Place.

It is not generally known, that the first three-wire incandescent electric light plant in the world was put in operation at Sunbury on the 9th day of July, 1882, under the personal direction of Thomas A. Edison.

MERCANTILE APPRAISER.

The necessary blanks and forms for the purpose of having the status of retail and wholesale dealers in goods, wares and merchandise fixed for the purpose of taxation will soon be issued. The new act was passed May 22, 1896, and goes into effect January 1, 1900. Under this act the mercantile appraiser must within ten days after he mails the blank call in person to see that it is properly filled up, and swear the party or parties to whom it has been sent to its correctness. If he is not satisfied with the vendor's statement he can have him examined under oath. If the vendor refuses or neglects to fill in the blank he can be summoned to appear before the county treasurer and be made to produce his books.

If the vendor is dissatisfied with the amount of business against him, he can appeal to the court of common pleas. Section 8 of the act compels the mercantile appraiser to visit the store or other places of business of any person assessed by him for license and notify him or them of their classification and amount of license; and any appraiser who neglects or refuses such visit and give such information shall be subject to a fine of \$100.

The only classification under the act is in separating vendors into wholesale and retail dealers. For that reason the wholesaler shall be considered that vendor, "who shall sell to dealers in or venders of goods, wares or merchandise and to no other person." All parties assessed as retailers pay \$2 tax and a further tax of one mill on each dollar of gross business transacted and the wholesale dealer \$2 and one-half mill on each dollar of gross business for the year. No sales are exempted by the act, except the sale of liquors.

Under the act every liquor dealer who sells cigars will have to pay a retail tax. Under the old law many exceptions are allowed, the principal reason being that the vendor's sales were not sufficient to put him in the class designated by the appraiser. All the decisions of the court however, as to the non-liability still stand and are in force, so far as regards exemptions of vendors for selling goods of their own manufacture or production. That is, a farmer can sell the products of his own farm or a tanner who takes hide and makes leather and sells it. A dealer in live stock is not liable and there are numerous other cases.

CURE FOR RHEUMATISM.

There was a report from New Castle, Del., recently that told how a man had been cured of rheumatism by being stung. The business end of sundry bees, it was alleged, had caused the relief. The remedy would seem to be heroic, if nothing else. But it is something else. It's effective.

In speaking of this a prominent physician said:

"However rheumatism originates, it amounts in the end to this, that certain abnormal products arise in the system which can find no outlet. These products lodge at the joints, impede the action of the muscles and produce the general, well-known symptoms of the disease.

"Suppose, now, a bee's poison enters the system. Substantially, this consists of a mixture of various pungent fluids having a more or less alkaline action and crystallizing in oblong form. These enter the blood, and if the acids causing rheumatic symptoms lie in the joints near the seat of the poison's entrance, the latter agent at once neutralizes them.

"It is hardly necessary to say, however, that such a result might not be invariable, owing to local conditions, and that I would not advise in general rheumatic patients to meddle with beehives."

Surprise Party.

On Friday evening there was a delightful event at the residence of Mrs. H. D. Showers, Zion, where the neighbors and friends of the community assembled as a surprise to the estimable lady. An elaborate feast was served and Mrs. Showers received numerous valuable presents as tokens of esteem. Vocal music and other pastimes during the evening made it an enjoyable affair.

Another Election.

The town council of Millheim decided by a vote of four to three, to submit to the voters of the borough at the next February election, the question of bonding the borough for \$10,000, for the erection of a system of water works. The voters turned down the project at an election held over a year ago.

Engagement Announced.

The announcement of the engagement of Miss Pearl, the popular daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Runkle, Jr., of Centre Hall, and Mr. Harry K. Condo, of Millheim, was recently made. Mr. Condo is a son of ex-Sheriff P. Condo, and is employed in the store of his father at Millheim.

FARMERS

INSTITUTES

To be Held at Howard and Unionville.

TWO INTERESTING PROGRAMS

List of Topics to be Discussed by Prominent Instructors—Two Days at Each Place—Farmers Should Attend—Held Feb. 14 and 15, and 16 and 17th.

Hon. John A. Woodward of Howard, upon the authority and under the auspices of the State agricultural department, will hold two farmers' institutes in Centre county during next month. The one at Unionville will take place on Wednesday and Thursday, February 14th and 15th. On Friday and Saturday, February 16th and 17th another one will be held at Howard and the public are cordially invited to attend both these institutes. They have been gotten up at considerable expense for the mutual benefit and improvement of the farmers of this county, and it is hoped that they will be largely attended. The speakers for the Unionville institute are as follows: Dr. Henry P. Armsby, director of the experimental station at State College. A Judson Smith of Clearfield, who will talk upon good homes, and give some good music. Eos A. Hess, one of the best read men upon scientific agriculture of his age in this state, will speak at several of these sessions. Hon. Joel A. Herr, member of the State Board of Agriculture for Clinton county, will give several practical talks. Dr. John E. Spindler of Tyrone, graduate of the veterinary department of the University of Pennsylvania, will give two splendid lectures concerning the welfare of our farm stock.

There will be five sessions, Wednesday afternoon and evening and Thursday morning afternoon and evening. The institute at Howard on Friday and Saturday of the same week, will be addressed by practically the same speakers as the above with the exception of Ellis Orvis of Bellefonte, who will address the institute on the subject "What is included in His Letters to the Farmers." Mr. Orvis is a deep thinker and eloquent speaker. So if you don't hear him you will miss a grand treat. The sessions at Howard will be Friday morning afternoon and evening and Saturday morning and afternoon. These sessions are all free. There will be no admission fee charged or collection taken. You therefore cannot afford to miss a single one of these sessions, neither can your wife, nor son, nor daughter. They are in part paid by your taxes and our farmers should go and get the benefit of them.

A GOOD SHOWING.

The annual meeting and election of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Centre county, was held at Centre Hall on Monday 8th, ten of the twelve members of the board being present.

The following board of directors was elected by an unanimous vote, for the ensuing year:

J. G. Bailey, H. C. Campbell, Frank McFarlane, Jacob Bortorf, Col. W. Fred Reynolds, Fred Kurtz, John W. Shook, J. W. Evans, H. E. Duck, Z. D. Thomas, George B. Haines, J. R. Brungart.

The new board, after being sworn, organized by electing the following officers unanimously:

President: Frederick Kurtz.
Vice President: H. C. Campbell.
Treasurer: B. H. Arney.
Secretary: D. F. Luse.

The annual statement shows that the company can pay all its liabilities, and have a surplus of \$1000 in the treasury.

State College Won.

The Lock Haven Normal School Basketball team opened the season at State College Friday evening. The first half ended with the home team far in the lead, but the Normal players braced in the second, and when the referee's whistle ended the contest, the score stood 17 to 13 in favor of the College men.

Accepted the Call.

Rev. G. W. Kerschmer, of Fayette, N. Y., who was given a call by the Centre Hall Reformed church, has accepted the unanimous call given him, and has tendered his resignation to the congregation in his present charge. He expects to arrive about February 1st.

Heavy Damages.

The Clearfield county courts have awarded Miss Virginia Beers \$2,000 damages for injuries sustained by a fall from a bridge that had no side protections. She was riding a bicycle at the time of the accident.

Skill in governing is acquired by trying. Give the Filipinos a chance.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

A bride party—the coachman. Makes a handy living—the palmist. Fools invest first and investigate later. Even the tragic poet may be found amusing.

The dressmaker may feel ill when she seams well.

No one ought to get left who is on the side of the right.

Every time a man gets mad he makes a fool of himself.

We have noticed that a doctor never looks at a hearse.

People who live in glass houses should have them frosted.

A cigar is never so good that you can't find a match for it.

Of course it doesn't sound well to speak ill of your neighbors.

Sometimes it prolongs a man's life to put him on a stretcher.

A dog couldn't tell how it felt if it were not for its tattle tail.

If you mislay your pocketbook, listen for it; they say money talks.

The woman who marries a policeman for money gets only a copper.

Somehow it isn't always the best dressed people who wear the best.

Time is valuable, or pickpockets would not bother to steal watches.

It isn't stinginess that makes a detective worry about the loss of a scent.

It is not the man who presses on the pencil hardest who is the heaviest writer.

If a woman is a fine singer, she has a right to have a voice in public affairs.

Hereafter the most shocking eloquent will be made on electric vehicles.

At a wedding the men all pity the bride and the women all pity the groom.

A wise man never questions a child in public unless he is sure of the answer.

In selecting a kit of tools no doubt the carpenter consults more than one catalogue.

We don't know what Abel did, but we have heard people say, "Cain botomed chairs."

Says the pennies, Doesn't the perfume maker prove that "every scent counts?"

There's no use for his level when the carpenter's wife wants to make a "plumb" pudding.

Although he may be a "bad dollar" himself, the rich man always passes currency.

If the government made nothing but paper money, we would still hustle for "hard cash."

Lazerges are not considered of great money value, though they often represent a mint.

A gun kicks when it's shot, but a man is more likely to be in a kicking mood when he's half shot.

No Leap Year.

We notice a good deal of space is taken up in the papers explaining why the year 1900, though divisible by 4, is not a leap year. The real reason is briefly that the length of the days in a year is determined by the period of the rotation of the earth on its axis, while the length of the year is determined by the revolution of the earth in its orbit around the sun, and it is a mathematical impossibility to establish an equation between the times of these separate movements which will give an even number of days to each year. Therefore, after many centuries of labor on the problem the astronomers, after several misfits in the way of calendars, just averaged the thing and tacked on a day now and then to fit the case. Even with the best they could do we have a year that is too long by twenty-six seconds, and that will undoubtedly make trouble some day, a few thousand years hence—but let us not worry about that, brethren.—Freeburg Times.

To Find the Day of the Week.

The following is a special rule for finding the day of the week corresponding to any date in the Twentieth century. Add together the number of the years of the century, one fourth of the year less one, neglecting fractions, and the number of the year; increase this sum by one then divide by seven. The remainder will indicate the number of the day of the week Sunday being regarded as one and Saturday as cipher. Take July 4, 1890. We have as the number of the year of the century 80, one fourth of this less one is 19. The number of the day in the year is 186 being a leap year. Hence, 80, plus 19, plus 186, plus 1, equals 286, divided by 7, gives 6, which means the sixth day of the week or Friday.

The Christian Science Movement.

Mrs. Mary Baker Eddy, the head of the Christian Science cult, has, it is announced, given her son a check for \$10,000 and a house worth \$15,000 as a Christmas present. No doubt Christian Science is the greatest thing the dear "Mother" ever tried.