

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, Ed. and Prop.

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY FEBRUARY 1, 1900.

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CONCLUSION OF COURT

A Condensed Report of all Proceedings.

FAMOUS BARBURNING CASE

Attracted Much Attention There was a Lack of Evidence—Report of Grand Jury—Doings of the 2nd Week—Reported by S. D. Gettig, Esq.

In the case of the Commonwealth vs. the Frantz boys, of which slight mention was made last week, and which was called for trial on Wednesday, considerable time was consumed in selecting a jury, as the case was tried in the Oyer and Terminer Court, and the panel was pretty well exhausted before a jury of twelve was selected to try and determine the case. The following jurors out of the panel were selected to try the case: H. K. Harshberger, laborer, Potter; Nathan Krape, laborer, Benner; O. J. Stover, teamster, Potter; Michael Shaffer, gentleman, Potter; George Ellenberger, farmer, Ferguson; Michael Hazel, laborer, Benner; Harry C. Bailey, farmer, Harris; Nicodemus Luse, farmer, Haines; Fred Robb, farmer, Liberty; Wallace Walker, farmer, Miles; G. E. Miller, farmer, Miles; J. C. Wagner, miller, Boggs. The Commonwealth was represented by District Attorney Spangler, W. F. Reeder, Clement Dale and E. R. Chambers, while the interests of the defendants were looked after by W. E. Gray and C. M. Bower. The case was tried with considerable spirit and every movement was watched closely. The barn of Mrs. Eve Sharrer, the wife of the prosecutor, was totally destroyed by fire on the morning of the 4th day of April, 1899, between 1 and 2 o'clock, together with seven head of horses, nine head of cattle and with harness, etc., and in the early morning after the fire, which was of incendiary origin, tracks of a man were discovered leading from the road to the barn and back again, and at the road a distance of about one hundred and seventy-five rods from the barn the tracks were plainly distinguishable in an old snow drift and measured by Mr. Sharrer and others in his presence, and it was decided by the parties that the tracks were made by a man wearing a lumberman's gum shoe, and close by it was observed where a man had been standing and kicked into the snow drift as though he had been standing there watching, and then at some distance from this point tracks of two men were discovered as though they had been running and where they had gone over a meadow, where the tracks were traceable on the grass which was frosted, and tramping on it in the frost made it look white, and tracks of two men were discovered at several places on the trails, and within a quarter of a mile from the residence of Samuel Frantz tracks were observed which had been tracked by reason of the frost, and tracks were plainly visible and then crossed the fence into a field in a course leading between the residences of Samuel Frantz and John R. Frantz and where two roads meet. Sarah Cowher saw two men going towards Frantz's near 2 o'clock that night but was some distance away and did not recognize them. She was coming home in company with Richard Fink from a call at the home of a Mrs. Adams. Orrie Marks and Jacob Walk were in this same vicinity that night and say that they saw Wilson and Reuben Frantz about the same time Mrs. Cowher says she saw two men and that they talked to them and that they were going toward home, but from the cross examination of these witnesses it appeared that the defendants would deny this. Reuben Frantz, who has been an invalid since April court last from a gun shot wound, was in court lying on a couch. Quite a number of witnesses were called by the Commonwealth to detail circumstances, as the case depended on circumstantial evidence, and when the Commonwealth rested her case, counsel for the defendant moved the discharge of John Frantz for want of evidence to hold him, whereupon the Commonwealth entered a nolle prosequi as to John Frantz, after which counsel for the defendant opened the case to the jury on behalf of Reuben Frantz, the remaining defendant, and after the opening by the defense and without hearing any evidence on his part save what the cross examination of the Commonwealth witnesses showed, the Court informed counsel that he had decided to close the case here for want of sufficient evidence and directed the jury to find a verdict of not guilty, which the jury did without leaving the box.

REPORT OF GRAND JURY.

TO THE COURT:—The grand jury for the county of Centre passed upon thirteen bills returned seven true bills and thirteen bills. Approved an appropriation of five thousand dollars for a soldiers' monument. Approved joint petition of Centre and Clearfield counties' bridge across Moshannon Creek in Rush township. Public buildings are in sufficient condition.

S. W. SMITH, Foreman.

Commonwealth vs. David R. Thomas and Mary S. Thomas, indicted for perjury, prosecutor Burdine Butler. The grand jury ignored the bill as to Mary S. Thomas and directed that the county should pay the costs. Mr. Thomas was prosecuted for swearing falsely in the interpleader case of Mary S. Thomas vs. Burdine Butler and Thomas Butler, tried sometime ago, which case has since gone to the Supreme Court, and after hearing some witnesses on behalf of the Commonwealth, the Commonwealth entered a nolle prosequi on Friday morning after realizing that there could be no conviction.

Other criminal cases on the calendar for January sessions were as follows:

Com. vs. Samuel Frantz, charge, aiding and abetting arson; prosecutor Christian Sharrer. Nolle prosequi entered.

Com. vs. John Raymond, charge, desertion; prosecutrix Mary E. Raymond. This case is from Spring township, and the defendant was adjudged guilty after a full hearing at January argument court and sentenced to pay the costs and to enter into a recognizance in the sum of five hundred dollars, to pay to Mary E. Raymond the sum of five dollars per month, payable monthly, for her support and maintenance.

MEMORIAL EXERCISES

To Be Held in the Public Schools of the County on Feb 22

MONUMENT FUND COLLECTION

Appropriate Literary Exercises to the Memory of Ex-Gov. Curtin and Those Who Were the Defenders of the Nation During the War of the Rebellion.

Last week the Grand Jury took action in regard to the appropriation of \$5,000 for the erection of a soldier's monument at this place. It was approved, and this being the second jury to favorably report upon the matter it was referred to the Court, and was approved there also. That practically settles the contribution of the county, which will be devoted to the erection of the foundation and the base.

The committee appointed by the G. A. R. are now active in the matter of raising other subscriptions. They calculate upon a monument that will cost no less than about \$15,000. The Centre County Veteran's Club have a fund already of over \$1,000; Gregg Post has decided to raise no less than \$400 and numerous other posts in the county will do their best. Then Gov. Hastings will duplicate whatever amount the Veteran Club contributes. There are numerous prominent citizens in this county who have announced their intention to make very liberal subscriptions to the fund, when the move assumes definite shape. The public schools of the county will also unite in the matter, and on the 22nd of February will hold public exercises appropriate to the memory of Gov. Curtin and the heroes of the Great Rebellion, and will also take up a collection on that date that will be appropriate to the monument fund.

The statue of Gov. Curtin that is intended to crown this monument will be supplied by subscriptions from personal friends of the deceased War Governor. So that with all these sources to draw from there is a flattering outlook that if each one does his or her duty in this direction there will be little difficulty experienced in raising the necessary funds for the completion of this monument at once.

CURTIN MEMORIAL DAY.

As all no doubt are aware, all the public schools of the county will observe Thursday, February 22nd, as a "Curtin Memorial Day" and now are preparing to hold literary exercises on that occasion to which the public will be invited in each district. At the same time a collection will be taken for this fund and all in attendance will have the opportunity to contribute as they may feel disposed.

The Executive Committee of the Directors Association of the county have issued a circular to all the directors in the county calling their attention to this fact, and urging them to give their hearty co-operation on that date, and aid the teachers in securing a large attendance of the parents. The following extract is from their address:

"The purpose of this day is two-fold: First, To specially call the attention of the pupils and citizens of every school district in the county to the life and public services of Governor Curtin, and to revive the name, service and memories of the men who from every community, entered the army during the War of the Rebellion. Second, As all now living enjoy the blessings of the Government Centre County did so much to preserve, a contribution would be asked from patrons and pupils to aid in the erection of the monument. Every one giving voluntarily as he or she shall see fit.

The school directors assembled acted for the entire body of the directors in the county, and as the directors were the first organized body to move in such a worthy, commendable and patriotic matter, your EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE urge all directors to do whatever they can as individuals and as a board to make this memorial service a success, both by way of exercise and attendance in every school district in their respective Townships and Boroughs, and in CONTRIBUTION.

Let all help in the erection of this memorial to our heroes, and when in the ages to come the children of the County shall inquire what this means they may learn from it how we have honored, loved and commemorated the memory of the men who served in the war for the preservation of our beloved UNION.

Wm. C. Heinle, Solomon Peck, Henry Meyer, R. M. Kaup, Geo. R. Williams.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

In addition to the above, Superintendent Gramley has issued a circular to all the teachers in the county calling their attention to the observance of this day and advising them as to the method of conducting the same. Here in Belleville the public schools are active in this direction and each school will have an interesting programme. In addition to the above there should be a public meeting in the Court House in the evening and the exercises conducted by the pupils of the different schools under the supervision of Supt. Etters and members

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of Gregg Post. The most appropriate portions of the school exercises, such as music, recitations and orations, should be furnished by the pupils of our schools, including the little tots as well as the big boys and girls. At that time the monument committee could set forth to the citizens of the community just what has been done, what they expect to do and how much money will be necessary to carry this matter through to a prompt and successful completion.

Since this project is assuming a definite shape our people should take an interest in the same. Don't let it lag along in a pitiful shape: Now is the time to build this monument and now is the time to raise the necessary funds.

The people of Belleville should especially be active in this move so as to impress the public in general that we mean business. We want to erect this monument so that the surviving old soldiers can participate in its dedication.

SUP'T. GRAMLEY'S ADDRESS.

TO THE TEACHERS OF CENTRE COUNTY:—At the last annual session of the Teachers' Institute the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That in furtherance of the proposed monument to be erected to the memory of the soldiers and sailors of Centre county, in the war of the Rebellion, with which a statue of the late Gov. A. G. Curtin is to be connected, we recommend the observance of a "Memorial Day" sometime during the present term, the date to be fixed by the County Superintendent.

The object of this action is to acquaint the boys and girls with the patriotism of Gov. Curtin, and the active part he took in the cause of the public schools, and to teach them to honor and revere the memory of those who sacrificed their lives that we may enjoy our glorious heritage.

Gov. Pollock, recognizing the eminent qualifications of Hon. A. G. Curtin, appointed him Secretary of the Commonwealth, a position which he filled with signal honor and ability, and in addition to the duty of Secretary proper, he was, *ex-officio*, Superintendent of Public Schools. In this position he took special pride and labored zealously, and was instrumental in inaugurating great improvements in the common school system.

Centre county was the home of Hon. A. G. Curtin, Pennsylvania's War Governor, who ranked with the ablest lawyers, greatest statesmen and most benevolent citizens of his time. His career as Governor was filled with acts of kindness and beneficence in behalf of the state, and he was ceaseless in his devotion to the interests and wants of those whom the state had given for national defense.

The desolate hearth-stone and the moans of the bereaved excited his sympathy, and he devised a system of care and instruction for the orphan of the fallen slain which should make the state their guardian and supporter. This was possibly the crowning act of his life. "He was the soldiers' friend and made his orphans the children of the state." Of him it may be truly said:

"One of the few immortal names That were not born to die."

February 21, 1900, is designated as "Parents' and Memorial Day," and it is hoped every school in the county will prepare appropriate exercises for the occasion, and make special efforts to secure the co-operation of parents, friends and veterans, thus giving to patrons the privilege to see the work done in the schools, and at the same time show honor and reverence to the soldiers and sailors that fell in battle. To show our further appreciation of the heroes of the Civil War, it is suggested—yea urged—that a collection be taken, and may it be a liberal one.

Contributions are to be forwarded to the undersigned, who will acknowledge the same through the county press, or through any channel designated by the Veteran Club Monument Committee.

C. L. GRAMLEY, County Superintendent. Belleville, Penn., Jan. 30, 1900.

Dismissed From The Army.

As the result of court-martial proceedings, Post Chaplain David H. Shields has been dismissed from the army of the United States, to take effect Feb. 1, and the Rev. Edmund T. Easterbrook of New York has been selected for appointment to the vacancy.

Mr. Shields was tried at San Francisco for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman in consequence of the alleged use of intoxicating liquor, was convicted and sentenced to be dismissed. The President has just ratified the sentence, directing it to take effect Feb. 1. Chaplain Shields, a native of Pennsylvania, was at one time in charge of a church at Lewisburg. He had been in the military service since Aug. 16, 1897.

In the average picture gallery, if you seek for examples of high art look at the low pictures.

—The Franklin & Marshall College Glee and Mandolin Clubs, of Lancaster, Pa., will appear in Garmans Opera House on February 21st. Their concert will be something choice; the organization contains about 22 students.

KENTUCKY'S DISGRACE

Senator Wm. Goebel Shot Down in the Streets of Frankfort, Ky.

COWARDLY ASSASSIN'S WORK.

It is Feared That He Will Not Survive to Occupy the Seat to Which He Has Been Declared Elected, as Gov. of That State—Great Excitement Prevails.

While walking through the capitol grounds, at Frankfort, Ky., on his way to the capitol building on Tuesday morning, William Goebel, the democratic contestant for governor, was shot down and very dangerously wounded.

Harland Whittaker, a farmer from Butler county, the home of Governor Taylor, is now in jail in Louisville, charged with the crime. There is no direct evidence against Whittaker. He was running toward the scene of the shooting when he was arrested. The ball passed through the back part of the right lung, across the body on a diagonal basis, passing below the left shoulder blade. No vital organs were injured with the exception of the right lung.

Mr. Goebel was on his way to the senate chamber, in company with Colonel Jack Chinn and Warden Eph Lillard, of the Frankfort penitentiary. Mr. Lillard was a few feet in advance of Goebel and Chinn, who were walking side by side, Goebel being upon the right and Chinn upon the left. As the shot was heard, Goebel gave a quick involuntary exclamation of pain and made an effort to draw his own revolver. His strength was unequal to the task, however, and he sank upon the pavement. With great rapidity several more shots were fired, the bullets striking the brick sidewalk close to where Goebel lay. The bullet which struck Mr. Goebel was fired from a window in the centre of the third story of the office building just east of the capitol.

WHITTAKER WAS ARMED.

Whittaker was arrested, as he came down the steps on the outside of the state office building, directly below the window, from which the shots had been fired. He made no resistance. He submitted to a search, which divulged three revolvers.

GOEBEL DECLARED GOVERNOR.

While William Goebel lay at the point of death in his room, the contesting boards, which, for two weeks, had been listening to the evidence in his contest for the governor's chair, declared him entitled to the seat.

The boards having in charge the contests between Goebel and Taylor for governor, and Beckham and Marshall for lieutenant governor, met at 7 o'clock at night to consider the evidence submitted to them and prepare their report to the legislature. A few legal authorities were read. The vote was taken and, by a strict party vote of 10 to 1, William Goebel was declared to have been legally elected governor of Kentucky.

HAS KILLED HIS MAN.

Mr. Goebel's first advent in politics was his election as state senator in 1887, and has since continuously represented Kenton county in the senate. He was a man who has despised any ostentation whatever. He is 44 years of age and never married. Goebel is a fearless man and has had various encounters, the most notable one being with John L. Standford, president of the Farmers and Traders' bank of that city, April 11, 1895, in which Standford was killed by Goebel.

GOEBEL IS GOVERNOR.

Frankfort, Ky., Jan. 31.—To-day Senator Goebel, although in a critical condition, was propped up in his bed while the oath of office was administered. The republican Governor adjourned the legislature to a mountain town, but were met everywhere by soldiers with fixed bayonets. Further trouble is feared.

'SHOT WHILE SLEEPING.

Sixth Tragedy at Spruce Creek in Three Months.

What may possibly be the sixth murder inside three months at Spruce Creek occurred at that place Monday morning, when Thomas Bogan, colored, stole into the sleeping room of Lane Stroud and shot him five times as he lay in bed. Bogan, thinking his victim dead, calmly robbed him of his clothes and fled.

Residents of the little town, aroused by the shooting, ran to Stroud's home and found him alive. Learning the story, they sent an armed posse in pursuit of the would-be murderer, who has not yet been caught. Stroud was taken to the hospital in Altoona, where he still lies at the point of death.

Wound Up.

The Iron City Mutual Fire Insurance Company of Pittsburg, which have been in a receiver's hands for over two years, are about to be wound up. Elmer W. Moore the receiver, has \$20,000 on hand for distribution among claimants, or about 25 per cent of the total claims. This will be good news to the 300 policy holders in this county who were continually annoyed by assessments and legal proceedings.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

LOVE'S ANGUISH.

In the limpid, lingering glamer Of a love that came in June, Sighed a maiden by a river, As she nibbled at a prune.

With a maiden's soaring fancy, Like the clouds that change and dapple She murmured for her lover; Then she changed the prune for apple.

As the new emotion thrilled her With sweet pain beyond compare, She flung one arm above her And seized a luscious pear.

As no sweetheart came to cheer her At the river's green sedge brink, With a look of almost anguish She produced a flask to drink.

When her heart could bear no longer Its load of wild regret, She reclined beside the river And smoked a cigarette.

—OMER MEKHAYAM.

'Twas in the dim conservatory, He wooed her at the dance; "Speak softly, walls have ears," said she, "And look! The rubber plants."

A relic of barbarism—the wornout razor. Running in debt—the unpaid-for watch.

The best talkers are usually the poorest quitters. High words are often used to express low language.

Some headaches are natural, and some are acquired. Poets are born, but the waiter girl is made to order.

A woman's wants are often the cause of a man's woes. The well man often forgets the sick man's promises.

Single persons are often guilty of leading double lives. A man is apt to look bluest when he is in a brown study.

The shoe dealer always sells his goods at bottom figures. Some people spend lots of money practicing economy.

The proof of the pudding is the empty dish after dinner. The bounding billows are to be found at three-mile limit.

A man and a strange umbrella often go without saying. Confectioners should make their candy over bon-bon fires.

It is exceedingly hard to get along with a balky horse. The achers of the farmer yield an income to the dentist.

When the dentist is careless his patient takes the most pains. A dry book will seldom satisfy one's thirst for knowledge.

Friends and umbrellas are seldom at hand in time of need. Promissory notes are nothing more or less than paper-waivers.

College men never graduate in a hurry they do it by degrees. How strange it is that only sensible people agree with you.

Even blind children may enjoy themselves playing see-saw. It is always the most promising young man that gets into debt.

Money is useful as a servant, but tyrannical as a master. The silent man doesn't always abbreviate timber with a saw.

A man is out of spirits when there isn't a drop left in the house. The cashier should be known by the company that keeps him.

Ignorance of the law should excuse a lawyer from practicing it. The bark of a sailor is somewhat different from that of a dog.

It never reduces the size of a claim against an estate to file it. A vivid imagination is often as dangerous as a little learning.

When railroads get to cutting rates, ticket scalpers are happy. The band-wrecker may be bailed out, but the bank usually sinks.

Snow comes down in the winter and ice goes up in the summer. Many a poor man has an off-hand acquaintance with a buzz-saw.

Where there's a will there's always a way for lawyers to break it. The old toper frequently gets away with more than he can carry.

Newspapers and bootblacks polish the understanding of their patrons. The ink is entitled to much of the mightiness attributed to the pen.

The mother-in-law often proves too much for newly wedded lawyers. A literary hack sometimes carries the publisher over the road to wealth.

The bunco man never puts off until to-morrow those he can do to-day. Equal parts of love and sense makes the world go round on the square.

Brevity may be the soul of wit or merely an indication of its absence. The undertaker may be slow, but he manages to overtake the rest of us.

About the only place where people seem to have time enough is in jail. The wire workers' union embraces politicians and telegraph operators.