

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, Proprietor.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 1900.

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AUGUST COURT IN SESSION

Three Young Men Admitted to Practice

NO VERY IMPORTANT CASES

County Commissioners Suffer Compulsory Non-Suit in Their Case Over Surcharge of County Auditors—Proceedings in Detail

August sessions of court convened on Monday morning at 9 o'clock with Hon. John G. Love, President Judge, on the bench.

The larger portion of the morning session was consumed in hearing motions and petitions as presented by the different members of the bar.

On motion of John Blanchard, Esq., a member of the bar examining board, John J. Bower of Bellefonte, son of C. M. Bower, one of the leading members of the bar, S. Kline Woodring of Bellefonte, son of ex-Sheriff D. W. Woodring, John G. Miller of Pine Grove Mills and James A. B. Miller of Milesburg, formerly of Pine Grove Mills, were admitted to practice law in the several courts of Centre county. These young men passed a very good examination before the board last Friday afternoon and have the ability to make excellent lawyers and honorable members of the Centre County Bar.

List of Grand Jurors called and absentees noted. L. C. Wetzel, a machinist of Bellefonte, was chosen foreman of the Grand Jury, and after the duties of Grand Jurors were thoroughly explained to them by the Court they retired to the grand jury room, where they proceeded to pass on the several bills of indictments that were laid before them by District Attorney Spangler.

Herbert I. Brungart, a nephew of Sheriff Brungart, who passed his examination before the Board last Friday, registered as a student at law with Orvis, Bower & Orvis.

J. William Stump and John H. Taylor of Potter township were discharged from custody by the Court under the insolvent laws of the Commonwealth.

The constables of the several townships and boroughs of the county then made their quarterly returns to the Court of Quarter Sessions, as they are required to do by law.

List of Traverse Jurors called and absentees noted.

The tavern license of Isaac A. Shaver at the old Fort hotel in Potter township was transferred to Abraham L. Armstrong.

The civil trial list for this week's court was then called over and the following cases disposed of: William Hogarth and Harper Hoffman, trading as Hogarth & Hoffman, vs. F. P. Bortoff, appeal; plea, non assumpsit. Settled.

R. C. Norquist and F. O. Norquist, trading as the A. C. Forquist Company, vs. F. E. Naginew, appeal; plea, non assumpsit. Settled.

Monday afternoon several returns were made in partition writs.

The first criminal case to be reached was Com. vs. Charles Waple and Lowe Jones, indicted for robbery and larceny from person; prosecutor, Lewis Elliott.

On the 30th day of April last, the prosecutor, who lives at Black Moshannon, went to Philipsburg, stopping at the Erb House, and during the day went out and indulged too much in "o-be joyful," and as the prosecutor alleges, while at the Central Hotel these defendants volunteered to take him home to the Erb House on Spruce street at about 6 o'clock but instead of them taking him to the Erb House, they took him to the commons, or ball ground, on Spruce street, where they overpowered him and took his money from him—the exact amount he was unable to tell, but something over twenty dollars. On the other hand, the defendants allege that the prosecutor had been drinking too much and that the landlord of the Central Hotel had asked them to take him home to the Erb House and that they could not get him farther than the ball grounds, where he got contrary and that they managed to get him off the street, and when they got him there he took off his coat and vest, and that they watched him until nearly 7 o'clock, when they started for home. About fifty or seventy-five feet from where the prosecutor lay they found a pocketbook containing twenty-one dollars which they divided and threw the pocketbook into the alley. They were arrested the same evening and paid the money over to the Chief of Police, Sankey. Verdict, guilty of larceny.

Com. vs. Eph. Learish and John Walker, indicted for first count assault and battery second count aggravated assault and battery; prosecutor, Michael Grobice.

This case is from Sandy Ridge. The Commonwealth entered a general nolle prosequi as to Eph. Learish and as to

AN ATTEMPTED LYNCHING.

A Williamsport dispatch, of the 24th, gives the following account of an attempted lynching at Canton, in Bradford county: Mrs. William Spencer, a widow, living in the Spencer neighborhood in Union township, midway between Canton and Ogdensburg, was robbed about two weeks ago of \$135 in cash. The crime was committed by some person who was doubtless familiar with her house and the immediate surroundings. The house was entered at midnight and at the point of a revolver the lone widow was forced to tell where she kept her savings. The treasure consisted of two fifty, seven five dollar bills which she kept secreted in a bureau drawer. William Leonard, a farm hand, was suspected as being the robber. Leonard worked for a farmer whose land adjoins Mrs. Spencer's farm. Wednesday night a mob of thirty men, heavily masked, went to the residence of Leonard, battered down the door with the end of a railway rail, dragged Leonard from bed, and after getting him outside a rope was fastened around his neck. Every one of the thirty men took hold of the rope and started on a run to a tree, which was about 200 yards away.

When the tree was reached Leonard was in bad shape. His body was cut and badly bruised and the life was almost choked out of him. When he was sufficiently recovered he was accused of having stolen the \$135 from the widow. He was informed that if he would tell where the money was concealed the lynchers would let him go unharmed, but if he did not confess they would hang him until dead. Leonard declared he was entirely innocent of the crime. His statement was not regarded as being the truth and instantly one end of the rope was thrown over a stout limb of the tree and the victim was jerked into the air. He was suspended for a short time when he was lowered, and given another chance to tell about the whereabouts of the money. He again protested his innocence and for a second time he was lifted off his feet by the rope. Two more attempts to get him to confess that he took the money were unsuccessful. The fourth time he was hanged Leonard was nearly strangled to death. He was notified to leave the state and was told that if ever he was caught in Bradford county he would be killed. The news of the affair has excited the entire northern part of the state.

A New Plan.

Talking about beans, here is a new way to stimulate consumption: George Phalen, a guest at the Omaha Hotel, ordered a dish of beans. When they were brought he did not like them and told the waiter to take them away. A stranger, who sat opposite, drew a revolver and commanded Phalen to eat every bean or he would kill him. Phalen complied while the stranger nervously fingered the trigger of his revolver. When Phalen had swallowed the last bean the stranger arose and departed. The police were notified and are now hunting for the man with the gun.

The machine politician may soon adopt the plan, and if you don't like his plans he will use his six-shooter on you, and let you know that you are of no other use than to "eat bean"—or, vote as he will.

Big Fire at DuBois.

Wednesday evening of last week the boiler house of the Berwind shaft, near DuBois, was discovered on fire and, although several fire companies were soon on the ground, nearly all the equipment of the monster coal operation above ground was destroyed, including the boiler house, engine house, tipples, two water tanks, valuable machinery. The loss to the company is estimated at about \$200,000. Sixteen men, who were at work in the mine when the fire was discovered, were warned of the awful danger and, by the aid of several of their fellow workers, escaped barely in time to save their lives.

None but Employees Can Ride.

The Adams Express Company and the railroad companies will hereafter enforce the rules prohibiting any one who is not employed by either to ride on express cars. The enforcement of this rule is the result of the Lane murder. Messengers have been lenient with their friends in allowing them to ride in the express cars and hereafter this will be stopped. The new rules regarding the riding in express cars are imperative and a violation of them will cost an employee his job.

Electroplating After Embalming.

Dr. Variot of Paris, has discovered a process for embalming bodies which it is thought will prove a great success. He not only embalms, but metallizes the bodies by the Ruolt process, just as it is done with a fork or a spoon. In this manner they can be preserved indefinitely, and in such perfection that the most imperceptible wrinkles and lines are reproduced, and the embalmed body has the appearance of a metal statue.

DEATHS OF THE WEEK

The Grim Reaper Wielded a Busy Scythe

EDITOR WILLIAM L. KURTZ

Died at His Parents' Home in Centre Hall and Rev. W. O. Wright in Philadelphia—Many Other Deaths Throughout the County.

WILLIAM LOUIS KURTZ—Died at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kurtz, Centre Hall, Pa., on Friday evening, August 24th, 1900, at 9:05 o'clock, after an illness of over two weeks with typhoid fever. His ailment took a sudden and fatal turn at 6 p. m. that day, owing to a severe hemorrhage of the bowels which left him in a state of collapse from which he could not rally. He was perfectly conscious and fully realized his critical condition from that on, was rational almost to the last moment, and spoke to the different members of the family who were by his bedside, bidding each in turn a final farewell. Services were held at the residence at Centre Hall on Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock, after which the members of the immediate families departed on the evening train with the remains for Berlin, Somerset county, Pa., the former home of his wife, where the interment took place Tuesday afternoon.

The deceased was a resident of Lewisburg, Pa., was the oldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Kurtz, of Centre Hall—age 38 years, 4 months and 12 days. In 1887 he was married to Miss Annie Krissinger, of Berlin, Pa.

He is survived by his wife and four children: Anna Bell, 12 years; Wilfred, 9; Jack, 7, and Emely, 16 months, also his parents at Centre Hall and two brothers: Charles R. Kurtz, publisher of the Centre Democrat, at Bellefonte, Pa., and J. Fred Kurtz, at home—Walter, the youngest brother, was drowned seven years ago while bathing in Penns Creek, near Paddy Mountain tunnel.

The deceased was born at Lewisburg, Pa., but spent the early years of his life at Centre Hall, where the family resided since 1868. He acquired a knowledge of the printing trade in the office of the "Centre Reporter" at that place which his father established and published for 32 years, and for several years was its associate editor. In 1885 he graduated from the University of Lewisburg, Lewisburg, Pa., with high honors. Upon returning home he, with his father, formed the flouring mill firm of Kurtz & Son, built a large plant at that place, and was manager of the same until a fire destroyed it in the spring of 1889. Then he removed to Berlin, Pa., where he engaged in the hardware business. In 1895 he disposed of his interests there and purchased the Lewisburg, Pa., "Journal," a democratic weekly paper, and has conducted the same very successfully since. In addition to his newspaper work he established a large job printing trade at that place and published other papers and several literary journals.

Mrs. Kurtz and children will make their future home with relatives at Berlin, Pa. In this sad bereavement the many expressions of sympathy and great kindness of friends was gratefully received and will ever be remembered by those who mourn.

The following were the pall bearers: Joseph C. Bucher, John K. Kramer, Andrew A. Leiser, Esq., H. Eyer Spiker, Frederick E. Bower, Esq., Thomas D. Barker and B. O. Brown, all of Lewisburg, and John V. Lesher, Esq., of Sunbury.

REV. W. O. WRIGHT—After a long illness with Bright's disease, Rev. Washington O. Wright who, during thirty-two years was pastor of the Milesburg and Snow Shoe Presbyterian churches, died in the Presbyterian hospital, Philadelphia, last Thursday morning. He preached his last sermon in Milesburg last November and on account of failing health resigned his charge the beginning of April and moved with his family to Philadelphia about the 1st of May. He was seventy-four years of age and a very quiet, unobtrusive man, doing constantly his full duty and ever devout and humble. He is survived by his wife, who was Isabelle Gilliland, and eight children, Mrs. Thomas Crowley, Mrs. Clement Church, Charles, Mary, James G., Henrietta, Raymond and Malcolm. Immediately on the receipt of the news of Rev. Wright's death in this place a number of Bellefonte ladies went to work and secured a fund to have the body brought here for burial, but as arrangements had already been made, the interment was in Philadelphia Saturday morning.

THOMAS HARPER—An aged and highly respected citizen of Aaronsburg, died Thursday morning August 23 at 5 a. m. The funeral took place Saturday, 10 a. m. The deceased was stricken with

paralysis last Saturday while in Loganton, to which place he had gone in company with Frederick Limbert to transact some business for the Reformed congregation of Aaronsburg. His right side was entirely paralyzed and he became speechless except to say yes and no. His age was about seventy years.

WM. LAMBERT—aged 7 years son of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Lambert, of North Allegheny street died Monday morning at 5 o'clock of spinal meningitis. The funeral took place from the Episcopal church Tuesday afternoon at 5 o'clock.

CARRIE E. BILGER—daughter of Dr. Joo Bilger, of Pleasant Gap, died at her home Friday night of consumption. She was aged 24 years, 4 months and 25 days. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

MRS. JAMES A. KELLER—of Centre Hall, nee Klechner, of Mifflinburg, died of consumption last Friday evening, the 24th. A husband, daughter, Mrs. Fisher, of Penn Hall, and three sons survive.

THE JOHN ROHN MYSTERY.

Interest in the mysterious disappearance of John Rohn, the wealthy Clinton county lumberman, over a year ago, is again revived by the alleged finding of new clues which may help to solve the mystery. A recent Williamsport dispatch says: For the past three weeks detectives have been working on new clues, the fruit of the \$1,000 reward offered for the return of Rohn alive, the finding of his body or the bringing of his slayers to justice.

The clues just uncovered lead far into the wilds of Clinton county where lumber camps are few and far between. It is stated that a few words carelessly dropped by a logman have led the missing man's family to believe that Rohn was slain, and his body secreted there. It is even hinted that a clue to the identity of his slayers has been found. The investigation has proceeded to such a state that arrests may shortly be expected.

The disappearance of Rohn forms one of the greatest mysteries in Pennsylvania history. Although 69 years of age, Rohn was a robust specimen of manhood, and went unattended about his vast landed possessions. Once he walked toward a distant field to poison some crows, climbed a fence and was never seen again. For months search for Rohn was continued night and day, and many strange stories as to his alleged death and even to his captivity, for many thought Rohn was being held for ransom, were in circulation. The new clues, however, bid fair to clear away all doubt about the case.

Was it Suicide or Murder?

Edward C. Mitchell, son of the late Ira P. Mitchell, was found dead Friday, near Emporium with two bullet holes in his head. The supposition is that the unfortunate man committed suicide, but for what reason is not known, as he was well fixed financially, owning a valuable property in Lancaster, and his married life was happy.

Mr. Mitchell was assistant principal of the National Transit Co. For several days he has been overseeing certain repairs that were being made on the line, near Emporium, by a force of men. His body was found Friday by a line walker named O. J. Burdick.

While no one seems to know what caused the man to kill himself, some of his friends incline to the belief that possibly the deed was done during a temporary fit of insanity. It is known that Mr. Mitchell was taken to Kirkbride's asylum some time ago where he was treated, and from which institution he was discharged about six weeks ago, cured. It is thought that probably he had a return of his affliction, or feared that he might again suffer from it.

Mr. Mitchell was a bright man and had taken great interest in the development of electricity. He is survived by his wife and was about 35 years old. He was well known in this place.

Many American Awards.

The list of awards to the American exhibitors at the Paris Exposition has been made public. The United States secured 1,981 awards. Of these 220 were grand prizes, 486 gold medals, 583 silver medals, 422 bronze medals, 270 honorable mentions, and a long list of gold, silver and bronze medals for collaborators. Every line of industry and art and skill is given recognition. American farm products and American mines and forestry receive grand prizes and gold medals, and American cottons, woolsens and silks are given the same consideration as are American harvesting machinery, sewing machines, printing presses, liberal arts and transportation, while silverware, jewelry, art and education are placed in front.

The Lycoming county prohibition convention, last week, nominated S. Paul Dinges as one of its candidates for assembly. Mr. Dinges is known in Bellefonte, and is a native of Centre Hall, and a brother of Cleaveland Dinges, dec'd.

BURGLARS IN BELLEFONTE.

Three Houses Entered Last Thursday Night.

E. R. CHAMBERS SHOT AT.

After Ransacking Two Houses on Curtin Street the Robber Forced an Entrance into the Chambers Residence.

Borough Solicitor Edward R. Chambers has figured as more or less of a hero the past week. Not because alone and single handed he captured a dangerous criminal, but because while in attempting to do such a thing he had a narrow and almost miraculous escape from being shot to death at the hands of the robber. Following close on the robbery of the postoffice at Centre Hall Wednesday night, the affair created considerable excitement, and ever since residents of this place have kept their doors and windows doubly bolted and fastened every night. Mr. Chambers' story of his midnight encounter is about as follows:

The robber desperado effected his entrance into the Chambers residence by prying up a front window. He then took the precaution to open the front door as a surer means of escape in case of detection. After ransacking the lower part of the house he proceeded upstairs and blew out the gas, which was burning low in the upper hallway.

Some slight noise attracted the attention of Mrs. Chambers, who got out of bed and went to the hall and asked who was there. There was no answer but the flash of a bull's-eye lantern told the story.

Mrs. Chambers screamed and ran into her room. The scream aroused Mr. Chambers, who ran into the hall.

The robber started down the stairway with Chambers close after, and finding that he was likely to be overtaken, the desperado deliberately turned and fired pointblank at his pursuer. Though he missed his man it was by so narrow a margin as to be almost a miracle.

The shot, and the additional knowledge that he was unarmed, stopped Chambers from making further pursuit, and the robber effected his escape. The man was masked, but notwithstanding this fact, Chambers is able to give a fairly good description of him and feels assured he can recognize him again. The robber was evidently after money, for although he had rummaged among the silvers he did not take a thing.

The neighbors were at once aroused and the police sent for, but though a most thorough search was made of that part of the town no trace of the robber or robbers, could be found. Prior to their visit to the Chambers' residence, which was about 3 o'clock in the morning, the thieves had entered the home of Claude Cook and another house on Curtin street, but in both instances were driven off with out securing anything. The police followed up every trail and clue on Friday but failed to locate anyone who could be connected with the robbers.

Appropos the postoffice robbery at Centre Hall the thieves secured even more than was at first supposed, a total of over four hundred dollars. They missed, however, a package of notes, bonds and mortgages of the Farr estate, of a value of more than \$22,000. On Friday evening the two tramps who had loafed around Centre Hall a couple days previous to the robbery, were caught in the lower part of Penns Valley and brought to this place. They gave their names as Malloy and O'Harry, and were kept in jail here until Saturday evening when they were taken by a U. S. Marshall to Williamsport. The evidence against the two men as the probable robbers is very meagre.

The Mine Caved In.

The first mine cave-in that has occurred in Centre county in years took place at Snow Shoe early Friday morning and as a result three men, Hungarians, whose names could not be learned, were crushed to instant death.

Correct details of the disaster are hard to get, the officials of the company refusing to give any particulars, but from well authenticated sources the following account was obtained:

Friday morning a small number of men were put to work in "robbing pillars" in Sugar Camp mine, No. 4, of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co.

They had worked but a short time when without any warning there was a cave-in of hundreds of tons of rock and earth and the three Hungarians were caught fairly beneath it.

A large force of men was at once put to work to dislodge the bodies of the dead, but it was more than forty-eight hours before they were reached. The bodies were badly crushed and death was necessarily instantaneous.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

Over the line—the clothespin.
Down on the farm—feathers.
In the first place—Adam and Eve.
What some bicyclists need is a safety valve.

A man's temper improves the more he don't use it.

Number won is the most popular number in a lottery.

Even an Irishman draws the line at little green apples.

One of the weaker vessels—the boarding house coffee pot.

The channel that great minds run in is never overcrowded.

A brick manufacturer has some excuse for wanting the earth.

The good housewife never tries to beat a carpet when it's down.

The man who is easily discouraged is apt to languish in obscurity.

While there is life there is hope—for everybody but the undertaker.

How could we get tea from China if there were no Boxers over there?

The golden rule is an excellent excuse for the girl who wants to propose.

When a man finds out how unimportant he is he will begin to gain in importance.

Talk some of those big Dutch words into a phonograph and you'll break the record.

If there is no water on the moon, it has a good excuse for getting full occasionally.

Americans who think it bright to ape the English are amusing because of their monkey shins.

If a man goes out between the acts, he usually comes in with a smile—but you don't always see it.

If a man's mind is a blank during sleep, it must be difficult for some men to tell when they are awake.

"False teeth," said the small boy, "are better than the real kind, cause when they ache you kin take 'em out."

State College to Open Sept. 13.

The fall session of State College for the year 1900-'01 will open September 13. The indications are for a very large Freshman class. Among the announcements of interests are the following: The Professorship of Biology has been filled by the appointment of Mr. H. A. Surface, a graduate of the Ohio State University, a Fellow and Teacher at Cornell, an experienced investigator and writer, and now on special duty for the United States Fish Commission. W. N. Golden, of Syracuse, New York, has been appointed Physical Director and will be on duty at the opening of the session ready to help the athletic teams. He has had a long and successful experience in athletic training, and it is believed that both of these appointments will bring strength to the College.

There will be a large number of athletes among the new men to enter College and there is the usual expectation of great things to be done on the gridiron, track and diamond.

County C. E. Convention.

The Centre County Christian Endeavor Union will meet in Bellefonte September 5 and 6 in its eighth annual convention. The Executive Committee, as well as the local committee, is endeavoring to make this the best convention ever held. The list of speakers includes a number of ministers from other cities, who are identified with county and state work. The topics to be discussed are such as will command the attention of all in attendance, as they deal with the practical methods of work and the relation of the young people to the church. The sessions will be held in the Presbyterian chapel and all are invited to be present. The convention opens at 2:30 p. m., on the 5th.

Coming Events.

Schenck family reunion, near Howard Thursday, September 6.

Centre county Veteran reunion, Hecla park, Saturday, September 8.

Granger's Picnic, Grange park, Centre Hall, September 15 to 22.

Forth Sub-district Epworth League convention, Howard M. E. Church, Tuesday and Wednesday, October 9 and 10.

Centre County Christian Endeavor Rally, Christian Chapel, Howard, Sunday afternoon, August 26.

Centre County fair, Bellefonte, October 16, 17, 18 and 19.

Held for a Further Hearing.

Charles O'Hare, of Harrisburg, and John Malloy, of Philadelphia, were arraigned before United States Commissioner Bentley at Williamsport Monday, charged with having robbed the Centre Hall postoffice on Wednesday night. The men were arrested at Coburn on Friday night. The prisoners were held under \$500 bail each for further hearing.