

# The Centre Democrat.

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BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1900.

VOL. 22, NO. 39.

## ACCIDENTAL OR INTENTIONAL

Additional Facts About the Gillen-town Shooting

## WAS ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED

Lovers had a Quarrel and Jealousy May Have Caused the Deed—Inquest on Wednesday—Habeas Corpus Saturday

There naturally is much interest attached to the shooting affray at Gillen-town, of which we made mention last week. As usual in such cases there are many wild rumors afloat in regard to the same and it is hard to get at the facts. Wednesday the District Attorney held an inquest at that place and the hearing was private, so that there will be little learned by the public from that. On Saturday morning the court will give the defendant, James Keenan, a hearing in the court room, at this place. He has retained as his counsel W. E. Gray and W. Harrison Walker, Esqs., while the District Attorney, Newton B. Spangler, will represent the Commonwealth.

The funeral of the dead girl, Annie Hobbins, occurred on Friday and was very largely attended by people from far and near, more through curiosity than anything else. In fact, after the shooting became known, the home of the parents was thronged for several days by friends and others who came to learn of the particulars and talk the matter over, and speculate as to how it actually happened. The are many causes assigned as to the motive for such a deed.

Of the facts in the case the following have developed since our last issue. John Keenan and Annie Hobbins and her younger sister Alice, who is 4 years old, were all who were present when the shooting occurred. They had gone on a lumber wagon to the saw mill for the purpose of getting wood. This was the Lucas saw mill along the Moshannon Creek. The point where it occurred, from careful inquiry, seems to have been about five feet across the line in Clearfield county. The creek is the boundary for the two counties, but the course of the stream has been somewhat changed of late and that has deceived many. An act of Assembly was passed some years ago for just such cases, where the location of a deed is very close to the dividing line, and when there is uncertainty, the authorities to whom the first information is made and have acted in the case have the jurisdiction, therefore it becomes the duty of Centre county to make the investigation.

When this shooting occurred the little girl said all three were on the wagon and that John and Annie were "footing and cutting up" and that he pulled out the revolver and pointing it at her said that he would do something, and she replied that she did not care if he did. The next moment he fired and she fell over in his arms.

There was no struggle between them, and as to whether it was accidental or deliberate must be obtained from other sources. It seems from the statement of other members of the family that Annie Hobbins had promised to marry John Keenan, and the mother has so stated to numerous parties. A short time ago they became estranged on account of Annie encouraging the attentions of some other young men in that section. To this John objected and Annie told her mother that she never would marry him because she could not think of living with a jealous man. On account of this misunderstanding it is said that the two lovers had not spoken to each other for several days prior.

The opinion of the mother and other members of the family is that the shooting was not accidental. They think that it was due to the difficulties that grew up between them, in fact state so positively. There were some bruises on the body of the dead girl, but what these may signify, remains to be ascertained.

## THE BIG STRIKE.

The Coal Miners Remain Firm—No Break in Sight.

The tie-up of the miners in the anthracite coal region was made more complete yesterday by further defections of employees of the Reading and Lackawanna companies.

None of the strikers returned to work, however, the men declaring that they would stay out until a convention had ratified general terms of peace, and until President Mitchell gave the orders to end the strike.

President Mitchell issued a statement to the mine workers warning them not to pay attention to reports that the strike was settled. He asserted that he had not been in conference with any coal road presidents, and had made no agreement.

## COUNTERFEITERS ARRESTED.

A Gang of Five Captured in the wilds of Clearfield County.

Chief W. J. Flynn, of the United States secret service bureau at Pittsburg, with his assistants, T. F. Berriman and L. W. Gammon, Friday, captured what is supposed to be one of the most dangerous gangs of counterfeiters that has ever operated in Pennsylvania. For some time spurious coin in denominations of 25 cents and \$1 has been circulating in this part of the state, and about 10 days ago Chief Flynn went to Warfield and finally succeeded in locating the "mint" in a deserted lumber camp, in the most desolate and deserted part of Clearfield county, between Penfield and Clearfield. The first arrest was made Thursday at Gram-pian, where Marcus Freedman was found with bad money in his pocket, and taken to Ridgway and held in heavy bail for a hearing.

Thursday night the chief, with his men, went to DuBois and from there to Penfield Thursday morning, driving from Penfield to the old Hoover camp on the Clearfield pike, where they found James N. Wilson and C. W. Bigler, whom they placed under arrest. A search was made, but no coin was found. Driving three miles further they encountered two more suspects, Yerd Wilson and James Wikop, near the latter's home. After arresting these men they made a search and discovered a complete counterfeiting outfit, and over \$200 in spurious coin nearly ready for circulation.

The prisoners were taken to Clearfield and lodged in the county jail. It is thought the men are old hands at the business and dangerous characters. The coin are excellent imitations and would really pass as the genuine article almost anywhere.

## SERIOUSLY INJURED

Irvin Gray, of Stormstown, Run Down on Lewisburg Track.

Irvin Gray, of Stormstown Centre Co., was probably badly hurt on the fair ground at Lewisburg, Friday. He was crossing the track during a race. It is feared that he cannot recover.

Mr. Gray is owner of the trotter Sally Derby which had won two heats in the 2:25 race Thursday and Friday; it was one of four horses entered in the final heat. Gray was standing along the track opposite the judge's, and as the horses came down the home stretch Sally Derby had gained a good lead in the race. Gray was much excited, and as his horse sped under the wire a winner he started across the track towards the judge's stand, utterly oblivious of the danger that threatened him in the two other horses that were bearing down upon him. The crowd in the grand stand shrieked in alarm but the next instant John K., a horse owned by John Hillegas, struck Gray and knocked him like a foot ball. The driver of John K., and the horse alongside were thrown out in the mixup that followed but neither drivers or horser were hurt.

Gray lay on the track as if dead. He was carried to shelter. Upon regaining consciousness he complained of awful pains in the back. He was taken to the hospital at Sunbury as soon as possible.

## Suicide at Linden Hall.

Linden Hall and vicinity was shocked Sunday by the death of John Cummings, a prosperous farmer who lived a short distance east of that place. During the forenoon he told his wife he would go up stairs to his room and by dawn. Mrs. Cummings called her husband at noon, but receiving no answer she went up to his room and was surprised to find it unoccupied. She noticed the attic door was standing ajar and going up the steps was horrified to find her husband hanging by the neck from a rope attached to a rafter. The lady was terribly frightened and running from the house she hastened to the neighbors for assistance. On returning to the unfortunate man it was found he was quite dead and had been so for some time. Several months ago he was taken sick and his mental condition was effected thereby. Just a week ago last Friday he made an unsuccessful attempt at suicide by taking Paris green and pounded glass. He is survived by a wife and seven children. Mr. Cummings was a good citizen and a kind parent, and his death was a severe shock not only to his family but to his many friends as well.

## Faithful Dogs.

With his dogs faithfully watching by his dead body, James Chapman, aged 19, was found in an old house near his father's home, on Jacoby mountain, near Williamsport, Sunday morning. In the young man's right side was a terrible wound caused by a heavy charge of buckshot. Chapman, accompanied by two dogs, had gone out coon hunting Saturday night. It is supposed that he accidentally shot himself.

Men are not like guns. You can always tell when they are loaded.

## OPPOSED TO McKINLEY

The Philadelphia Times Now Advocates the Election of Bryan.

The political sensation of the week was the announcement that the Philadelphia Times had become a convert, had dropped McKinley with his trusts and imperial course to become a supporter of Bryan for the presidency. Four years ago The Times abandoned the democracy and became one of McKinley's staunchest supporters. About a year ago the paper was sold but Col. A. K. McClure remained as the editor in chief. At that time it announced its belief in republican doctrines and in the future would support McKinley for re-election. Now it frankly confesses that it made a serious mistake. The two following leading editorials give their reasons for this course:

## FOR BRYAN AND DEMOCRACY.

The Times was from the first issue an independent newspaper, free from any control but that of its obligations to the public; and its political independence very early led it to oppose the corrupt, despotic and dangerous policies of the party then as now in power in city, state and nation, and to support the principles of the democracy. From the very first year of its publication, it has been the leading advocate of every democratic candidate for governor of Pennsylvania, and from Tilden to Cleveland it earnestly sustained every democratic candidate for president.

This advocacy was due to no self-interest—for democracy has had few favors to dispense in Pennsylvania—but to consistent conviction of what was to the public advantage, a conviction that experience has sustained. Not alone the degrading effect of machine politics in Pennsylvania, but the whole tendency of republican rule in the nation, with its constant centralization of authority, the subservience to the money power, the building up of favored interests by class legislation, had nowhere a more honest opponent than The Times, and the democrats of Pennsylvania learned to look to it as their representative newspaper.

The Times has been unfailingly hostile to those measures with which William McKinley particularly was identified, such as the monopoly-bred, deficit-producing tariff that bore his name. Yet four years ago, in the sudden crisis that divided the councils of the democratic party and for the time being seemed to have checked its great career, it seemed better to The Times, as to many other leading democratic papers, to sustain Mr. McKinley's election as president rather than that of Mr. Bryan. The decision was made in good faith. The result has shown it to be wrong. It is repented and recanted.

All the evils and the perils of the so-called republican policy have returned seven-fold, developed and extended till the very foundations of the government seem threatened. A false economic system has resulted in vast combinations of capital that throttle individual industry and hold control over all the functions of government, and the spokesman of the administration, a representative of one of these great trusts, is calling upon his fellow-capitalists for contributions to buy another four years license to rob, another four years life for their inflated and false prosperity. The government thus controlled has found its fittest expression in schemes of military conquest and the blood and treasure of the nation are poured out to subdue a distant people and rob them of those rights of liberty and independence that America has always claimed for all mankind.

Imperialism, militarism, are the natural outgrowth of commercialism in politics, of the power of the few over the many, the elevation of money above manhood, with all the system of special privileges and corrupt control that the republican party since the civil war has increasingly fostered. The upholders of this system are themselves aware of its hollowness and are calling for aid from the money power to bolster it up for a time longer. The condition is one that the country must meet and meet now, and the way to meet it is by a reassertion of the democratic idea and the election of a democratic president.

This The Times means to advocate with all the force it has. Our belief in the essential doctrines of the democratic party and in their necessity to the country is stronger than ever. No one questions or can question, the ability the earnestness, the integrity of the democratic candidates. For the rescue of all that has made America glorious in the past and that can make her strong in the future, it is a duty to support their election.

The Democrats of Pennsylvania have a right to expect this of The Times and they shall not be disappointed. We mean this paper to be recognized as a democratic newspaper, honest, fearless and truthful, but always sincerely and loyally devoted to the interests and to the success of the democratic party, its measures and its men. We know that The Times has not filled this place in the past four years, but we intend that it shall fill it hereafter, and that it shall help to rally the Pennsylvania democracy once more to a hopeful battle for the Constitution and the laws and the rights of men in the campaign for Bryan and Stevenson.

## HALT IMPERIALISM--ELECT BRYAN.

Either William J. Bryan or William McKinley will be elected President of the United States in November. There are other organizations and candidates which may command hundreds of thousands of the popular vote, but they are not reckoned in considering the ultimate issue of the contest.

The battle of 1896 was fought and largely decided on an issue that has been entirely overshadowed by the assertion of a new and most dangerous policy to the tranquility and safety of the Republic. Centralization has been appreciated by intelligent political observers as the great peril to the Republic ever since our civil war; but it has been wholesomely restrained by the people, and never reached the appalling attitude of positive imperialism until President McKinley proclaimed it and enforced it, regardless of the wise limitations upon Executive authority.

The paramount issue between the two great parties to-day is that of imperial prerogatives against the true Jeffersonian theory of government by the people; and it must now be obvious to all intelligent voters that there can be no hope of halting the present reckless and riotous spirit of imperialism in any other way than by the election of William J. Bryan as the next President of the United States. It is vital, the paramount issue, and it must triumph whenever the people of the nation appreciate their sovereign power and assert the majesty of popular rule.

We are now engaged in a costly and bloody struggle in the Philippines that could and should have been avoided by recognizing the rights of the people to rule themselves; and under the imperial policy, now for the first time proclaimed to the country and to the world, the President inaugurates war in the far distant East, without the authority of Congress and in defiance of the supreme law of the nation; and has made and prosecuted war, and proposes to make peace, with all the authority of the Czar of Russia.

The nation is thus in peril from the threatened subversion of the sovereign power of the land that is supporting the concentration of capital against the interests of labor; that is debauching our political system by the open collection of millions of money from protected trusts to expend in the national political contest and that has inaugurated a reign of reckless profligacy and extravagance unexampled in the history of the nation. It must be halted by the people if they would preserve their own government "of the people, by the people and for the people;" and it can be done only by the election of William J. Bryan as the next President.

The Democrats of Pennsylvania have a great duty and a great opportunity in the present contest. They can become an important, indeed a controlling, factor, not only in restoring Pennsylvania to a purer political system and better administration, but in gaining for themselves and for all good citizens, an honest ballot and fair representation of all parties in the national and State Legislatures. Democrats have the cordial co-operation of Independent Republicans, and they must be false to themselves if they fail to control both branches of the Legislature, and thus place the Democracy of Pennsylvania in a position to command the confidence of the people and win future victories, because they shall deserve the victory.

Halt Imperialism—elect Bryan.

## PREPARING FOR THE NEW FAIR

Large Exhibits and Elaborate Programme of Amusements

ADMISSION WILL BE 25 CENTS

Premium List Issued Which Makes Large Awards for all Kinds of Exhibits—Railroads Give Special Rates—Fine Races

Centre County now has a well equipped fair, fully organized and on the 16th, 17th, 18th and 19th of October, the first Centre county fair on the New Fair Grounds, at Bellefonte, will be held. A wide-spread desire for the re-establishment of the Centre County Fair on a broad basis has at last materialized, and within the space of the few short months since last spring the new grounds of surpassing natural beauty have been acquired, the course of Spring Creek has been changed, a splendid half mile race track has been constructed, an exhibition building, grand stand, ample racing and livestock stables and pens have been erected, and all is now in readiness for the people of Centre county and Central Pennsylvania as well to flock to Bellefonte from every quarter to join in the re-opening of this worthy public enterprise. It is intended that this shall be the people's fair, carried on for their instruction, amusement and recreation. The association has issued a highly commendable premium list, and exhibits of varied character are assured and are invited from all quarters.

Ample arrangements have been made in the way of railroad transportation. Excursion tickets will be sold good during the fair at a single fare rate (no fare less than 25c) on the Pennsylvania railroad from all points on the Tyrone Division and on the Philadelphia and Erie railroad Division, Lewisburg and Tyrone railroad and from all points on the New York Central and Beech Creek systems, between Williamsport and Clearfield and over the Central railroad of Pennsylvania from Mill Hall to Bellefonte. An excursion train will leave Mill Hall for Bellefonte over the Central railroad of Pennsylvania about 11:15 a. m. on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and special return trains over the Lewisburg and Tyrone railroad will leave Bellefonte on Wednesday and Thursday in the evening after the close of the fair. All trains on the Tyrone Division of the Pennsylvania railroad and on the Central railroad of Pennsylvania will stop at the grounds. The Bellefonte Central railroad will also hold its return train in the evening until after the fair.

On Tuesday, October 16th, there will be a live-bird shoot by the Sportsmen's League of Centre county together with other attractions and on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of the same week there will be races of exceptional character contested by the fastest horses in the state. They are coming from all quarters. It is the last race meeting in this part of the country. In addition to this there will be various free acrobatic and other shows before the grand stand that will highly interest and amuse. These have been obtained at great expense.

The admission is only 25 cents, with no extra charge for the admission of vehicles. Definite arrangements for hitching of teams have been made by the management so as to economize space and not to interfere with the free movement of the crowds throughout the fair ground. Persons in attendance will direct horses and vehicles to convenient places where same can be safely hitched and there will be ample opportunity of obtaining meals and lunches upon the grounds at all times.

Remember the date. Think how easy it is to get there and enjoy yourself in a great variety of ways, and remember that the admission is only 25 cents.

## Snakes Galore.

The men, who were assisting in running the lines on the Hopkins' forestry reservation, have returned to the city. They state that they never saw the like for snakes in that section of the state. They report that a Mrs. Ransdorf killed this season fifty-three rattlesnakes and three copperheads; Theo Huff and his sons killed on Fish Dam run forty-three rattlers, and that another party killed nine blacksnakes and thirty-six rattlers. One of the latter had twenty-six rattlers.

## The Drouth at Mahaffey.

The drouth near Mahaffey is doing much damage to the late crops. The Susquehanna river at that point has dwindled to a mere brook in size and fish are dying by the wholesale. Railroad traffic is impeded by the scarcity of water, locomotives being compelled to go forty miles for supply. Hundreds of wells have dried up, and pure drinking water is a rarity. As a consequence typhoid fever has set in.

## FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

Cold facts—the ice man's bill. Something to go by—mileposts. The place for a cemetery is a sorry site.

Time and again—the jailbird's second term.

Overtalk tires more people than over-work.

Has no cause to grumble—a sound tooth.

To memory dear—an exorbitant unpaid bill.

It doesn't take two shoemakers to make a pair.

It is hard to patch up a quarrel with a piece of your mind.

A word on the quiet is the kind that usually gets noised about.

A spinster can't learn to play the violin unless she has a beau.

Temperance advocates generally live and die with water on the brain.

When the circus elephant comes to a bridge the show has a big walk-over.

It's no wonder the telegraph operator wakes up and listens for the bed-tick.

When a goat eats an old corset, do you suppose that it stays his stomach?

The melon season is about over, but the melancholy season has just begun.

You might say that a worn-out phonograph record had talked itself to death.

The tattooed man isn't always inconvenienced by an elephant on his hands.

A talkative dressmaker may make cutting remarks entirely free from bias.

Talk is rather cheap, but some people have a mania for trying to monopolize it.

Not half the girls have murder in their hearts when they dress themselves to kill.

A countryman isn't always recognized as a hayseed until he is planted on city soil.

When one man makes love to another man's wife, he infringes upon a patent right.

It's easy to drop an acquaintance when you have been giving them a lift in your buggy.

Shakespeare wrote the best paying drama: The ghost always walks in "Hamlet."

The mail carrier gets rid of his responsibilities by leaving them at other people's doors.

A good disposition is a thing to be envied, but too much envy spoils a good disposition.

Noah was the first man who proved that it was wise to lay something by for a rainy day.

Rag-time music may be all right, but there is no music in the voice of the man who cries "Rags!"

Some women get along without pockets of their own, because they know the way to their husband's.

"Mind over matter" is an accepted theory, but there is something the matter with a person who has no mind.

It is not easy for the colored parson to practice what he preaches when he runs across a chicken coop in the dark.

## GOOD FOR THE SCHOOLS.

The Districts Will Receive Their Full Appropriation.

The pressure of censure on the cut in the school appropriation has become so heavy that Governor Stone has been compelled to make the statement that he will ask the next legislature to pass a bill providing for the payment of the \$1,000,000 which he sliced off.

The governor made this statement Wednesday, on the same day that the mandamus proceedings were started in the Dauphin county courts. These proceedings have been instituted by the school directors of Lower Providence, Montgomery county, and have for their object the testing of the right of the governor to cut the appropriation. Arguments in these proceedings will be made Wednesday, Oct. 10th. If the court decides that the governor's act in vetoing a portion of the school appropriation law was unconstitutional, the governor's anxiety to rush into print with his intention to ask the next legislature to make up the vetoed amount, will be apparent. It now looks as though all the schools will get their full appropriation, but Governor Stone will not be entitled to any credit therefor.

## Influenced by His Conscience.

John Kane, aged 60 years, a wanderer, Monday found a pocketbook at Altoona containing \$153 belonging to Mrs. Charles Shearer, of that place. Tempted by his privation he concluded to keep the money and stared on his journey eastward. Below Tyrone his conscience got the better of his evil impulse, and walked back to Altoona to find the owner. With the aid of the police he succeeded and was rewarded for his honesty.

Steps the Cough and Works off the Cold Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets cure a cold in one day. No cure, no pay. 25c