

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. KURTZ, Proprietor.

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1900.

VOL. 22, NO. 47.

NOVEMBER TERM OF COURT

A Large Grist of Commonwealth Cases.

HOW CASES WERE DISPOSED

Slow Progress Owing to Delays—Cases Tried, Postponed and Settled—Reported by S. D. Gettig, Esq. for Our Readers.

Court convened on Monday morning at nine o'clock, with President Judge Love on the bench.

The major portion of the morning session was consumed in hearing motions and petitions presented by the several members of the bar in cases in the several courts of the county.

List of grand jurors called and absentees noted and H. H. Osman, blacksmith, of Port Matilda, Worth township, was selected as foreman after which the Court ably charged them as to their duties on the several bills of indictment which will be laid before them by the district attorney, and as to the several grades of crime and especially as to the grade of homicide, after which the grand jury retired to their room.

The constables of the several townships and boroughs then made their quarterly reports to the Court of Quarter Sessions.

The court handed down a large number of opinions in cases that were argued at the regular Argument Court in October last.

List of traverse jurors called and absentees noted.

The list of civil cases was then called over and the following cases were disposed of:

C. F. Blank and W. B. Gottshall, trading under the firm name of Blank & Gottshall vs. G. G. Hosterman; appeal, plea non assumpsit. Compulsory non suit entered.

W. B. Musser vs. F. W. Confer; appeal, plea non assumpsit. Settled.

Harry McKinley vs. Robert McCalmont, Rose McCalmont Shortlidge, and Mary J. McCalmont; appeal, plea non assumpsit. Settled.

Agnes Porter Benner, use of Margaret Harold vs. Wm. B. Mingie, Admr., de bonis non cum testamento annexo et c. of George Odenkirck, deceased; summons in assumpsit, plea non assumpsit. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$420.93.

Isaac S. Frain vs. C. M. Bower, Admr. et c. of John H. Orndorf, deceased; summons in assumpsit. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$599.58.

Rebecca Sparr vs. John Riter, executor et c. of Margaret A. Riter, deceased. Summons in scire facias sur mortgage, plea nil debit. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$460.

The following civil cases on the second week's list were disposed of for this term: Sarah Musser vs. D. M. Osborne & Co.; feigned issue. plea general issue. Discontinued.

Minnie Macool vs. D. M. Osborne & Co.; feigned issue, plea general issue. Discontinued.

Robert Kinkead vs. L. Pierce; summons in assumpsit. Continued generally.

A. D. Potts vs. A. M. McCoy and J. Frank McCoy & Son; judgment opened, six cases, continued on account of the serious illness of Mrs. A. McCoy.

Wychoff Pipe company of Williamsport, Pa. vs. State College Water company, appeal by plaintiffs from assessment of damages; plea non assumpsit. Settled.

Henry Wohlfort vs. Nathan Hough and Eueline Hough; summons in trespass, plea not guilty. Continued generally.

John Reese vs. Peter Kelley; summons in ejectment, plea not guilty. Continued at the costs of the plaintiff.

Hench & Drongold vs. Nathan Hough; judgment, opened. Continued generally.

Cortland Wagner company vs. L. C. Bullock, Jr.; summons in assumpsit, plea non assumpsit. Continued generally.

The following Commonwealth cases were disposed of at the morning session: Com. vs. Harry Condo, charged with adultery, prosecutor W. H. Runkle, Jr. The defendant waived the finding by the grand jury and entered a plea of guilty. Sentence was suspended.

Com. vs. Ada Runkle; charged with assault with intent to kill and carrying concealed deadly weapon, prosecutor Harry Condo. Nolle prosequi entered.

At the afternoon session considerable time was again taken up in hearing motions and petitions.

Andrew Kern received his final discharge from jail under the insolvent laws of the Commonwealth.

Com. vs. Daniel Robb; indicted for malicious mischief, prosecutor David Robb. This prosecution is brought for obstructing a public road leading from

Marsh Creek to Metzker's, in Liberty township, which said road was opened to the traveling public in 1866. The Commonwealth alleged that the defendant had set his fence out on to the right of way of the road, and also set out a hitching post and placed other obstructions in the road between his farm and the farm of the prosecutor. Verdict on Tuesday morning not guilty and the prosecutor to pay one-third of the costs and the defendant to pay two-thirds of the costs.

Com. vs. Willis M. Johnstonbaugh, indicted on three counts—first count, entering store to commit a felony; second count, larceny; third, receiving stolen goods. Prosecutor John N. Krumrine. This is the State College robbery case, when the store of the prosecutor was broken into on the night of the third day of October last, and the following goods taken therefrom, eight watches, chains valued at ten dollars, three gold filled watch chains, valued at three dollars; one door key valued at fifty cents; one ring case valued at twenty-five cents; five guard and fob chains, valued at six dollars; one gold filled Elgin watch, valued at eleven dollars; one thirty-two calibre revolver, valued at three dollars; three dozen cuff buttons, valued at nine dollars one suit of clothes valued at six dollars and fifty cents; one but valued at one dollar, amounting in the aggregate to fifty dollars and twenty-five cents. This defendant was afterwards arrested in Philipsburg, a full account of it having been given in these columns at the time of the arrest. The Commonwealth entered a nolle pro on the first and third counts and the defendant pleaded guilty on the second count and was sentenced to pay a fine of one dollar, costs of prosecution, and to two years and three months in the penitentiary.

Com. vs. James Murray, indicted on three counts; first count incestuous fornication; second count felonious assault, and third count adultery and bastardy; prosecutrix Lizzie Murray. These parties live on Thomas street, this town, and the prosecutrix charges her stepfather with the paternity of her child. Verdict on Tuesday afternoon of not guilty.

Com. vs. James Murray, indicted on two counts: first count assault and battery; second, aggravated assault and battery; prosecutrix Lizzie Murray. The prosecution is brought for striking his step daughter on the evening of October 29th, last, at their home on Thomas street. The parties are the same as in the preceding case. The Commonwealth entered a nolle pro as to the second count in the indictment and the defendant pleaded guilty to the first count and was sentenced to pay a fine of ten dollars, the costs of prosecution, and undergo imprisonment in the county jail for a period of thirty days.

Com. vs. Jacob Quiggle, charge cutting and converting timber of affiants to his own use; prosecutor, Samuel Marsh. Settled.

Com. vs. Howard Walker, charge arson and malicious mischief; prosecutor, William J. Butler; defendant committed to the house of refuge, September 17, 1900.

Com. vs. Clara Davis, indicted on two counts; first count disorderly house; second count maintaining a bawdy house; prosecutor H. H. Montgomery. Settled.

Com. vs. Harry N. Saylor, charge assault and battery; prosecutor Nathaniel Bierly. Defendant committed to the Danville Asylum for the insane before court.

Com. vs. Albert Pardoe, charge desertion; prosecutrix Marv Pardoe. Disposed of at October Argument Court.

Com. vs. James Williams, charge larceny; prosecutrix Elizabeth Bartley. Bill ignored and county to pay the costs.

Com. vs. E. P. Tate, charge assault and neglecting to maintain Rufus Gilbert Tate; prosecutrix Annie Tate. Settled.

Com. vs. Frank Croyle, indicted on two counts; first count, assault and battery; second count, aggravated assault and battery; prosecutor Samuel Saylor. Settled.

Com. vs. D. G. Barr, charge fornication; prosecutor H. S. Springer. Bill ignored and the prosecutor to pay the costs.

Com. vs. Jacob Quiggle and Adam Squires; indicted for maliciously cutting timber trees on land of another, prosecutor James P. Marsteller, superintendent of the Lehigh Valley Coal company. This prosecution is brought for the cutting of one hundred and ninety-four dollars and seventy-two cents worth of timber on the Charles Risk tract in Rush township owned by the Lehigh Valley Coal company people. The defendant alleged that he thought that he was cutting on part of the lands he had bought from Samuel Marsh and that he cut under claim of title. Verdict on Wednesday morning of guilty. Motion made for new trial, reasons to be filed within ten days.

James McMullen, constable of Boggs township, recently appointed tipstave,

Continued on Page 4.

HISTORICAL REVIEW

Incidents from the Early History of Centre Co. Republished

INTERESTING NEW FEATURE

That Will be Continued as Long as Appreciated—Gathered from Reliable History and Tradition—Contributions are Solicited.

(In our last issue the announcement was made that a new department would be established in the columns of this paper—a review of the early history of the county. The idea has met with much favor from our readers. From week to week we will give about two columns of such matter. The article this week relates to the customs and habits of the Indians, which to some may be of interest and especially instructive to the younger readers.

In the line of local tradition there are many of the older citizens of the county who may be able to furnish interesting incidents that have never been in print. Anything in this line is earnestly solicited and will be prepared for publication in proper order.—F. K.)

ABORIGINES' CUSTOMS.

As soon as a child was born, it was laid upon a board or straight piece of bark, covered with moss, and wrapped up in a skin or piece of cloth; and when the mother was engaged in her household work, this rude cradle, or bed, was hung to a peg or branch of a tree. Their children they educated to fit them to get through the world, as did their fathers. They instructed them in religion, &c. They believed that Manitto, their God, "the good spirit," could be propitiated by sacrifices, hence they observed a great many superstitious and idolatrous ceremonies. At their general and solemn sacrifices, the oldest men performed the offices of priests; but in private parties, each man brought a sacrifice, and offered it himself as priest. Instead of a temple, they fitted up a large dwelling house for the purpose.

Polytheism, or the grossest kind of idolatry, did not exist among them, although they had their images, representing the "Manitto," the images were of wood, the head of a man in miniature, which they always carried about them, either on a string round the neck, or in a bag. They also suspended images of the kind about the necks of their children, to preserve them from illness and to ensure their success.

The Delawares, in their feasts and sacrifices, held five as being the cardinal ones—each was accompanied by its appropriate ceremonies.

The first was a sacrificial feast, held biennially by a whole family, or their friends—usually in the fall; occasionally in the winter. Besides the members of the family, they sometimes invited their neighbors from the surrounding villages. The head of the family was obliged to provide everything. After estimating the requisite number of bears and deer on such an occasion, the young hunters were despatched to procure them. After securing them, they were carried in solemn procession to the house of sacrifice, and there deposited. The women, in the meantime, had prepared wood for roasting and boiling. They also prepared seats of long dry grass. When the invited guests had assembled and seated themselves, the boiled meat was served up in large kettles, with bread made of Indian corn, and distributed by persons appointed for that purpose. A uniform rule, strictly observed, was "that whatever was thus served up, as a sacrifice, must be wholly eaten, and nothing left." A small quantity of melted fat only, was poured by the oldest man into the fire, and in this the main part of the offering consisted. The bones were burnt, to prevent the dogs from getting any of them. After meal, the men and women struck up a dance. One singer performed during the dance, who walked up and down, and rattled a small tortoise shell, with some pebbles in it. The principal part of the song consisted of dreams, and a recital of all the names of the "Manittos," and such things as were esteemed most useful to the Indians. After the first singer was weary he sat down, and another sang. This kind of feast usually began in the afternoon, and lasted till next morning. Sometimes it continued for several nights in succession.

The second feast was similar to the first, with this difference, that the men danced almost in a state of nudity, and their bodies were besmeared with white clay.

At the third feast, a dozen or fifteen tanned deer skins were given to as many old men and women; who wrapped themselves in them, and stood before the house, with their face towards the east; and in this position prayed God with a loud voice to reward their benefactors.

The fourth feast was made to a certain voracious spirit, who, according to their

notions, was never satisfied. The guests were therefore obliged to eat all the bears' flesh, and drink the melted fat, without leaving anything, which was frequently followed by indigestion and violent vomiting.

The fifth festival was celebrated in honor of fire, which they held in veneration, considered it as the first parent of all Indian nations. They said that twelve "Manittos" attended this parent as subordinate deities, being partly animals and partly vegetables. The principal ceremony, in celebrating this festival, was, that a large oven was built in the midst of the house of sacrifice, that consisted of twelve poles, each of a different species of wood. These they ran into the ground, fastened them together at the top, and covered them entirely with blankets, so that the whole appeared like a baker's oven, high enough nearly to admit a man, standing upright. After meal, the oven was heated with twelve large stones made red hot; then twelve men crept into it, and remained there as long as they could bear the heat. In the mean while an old woman threw twelve pipes full of tobacco upon the hot stones, which occasioned a smoke almost powerful enough to suffocate the persons that were confined; so that on being taken out, they generally fell in a swoon! During the feast a whole deer-skin, with the head and antlers remaining, was raised upon a pole, to which they sang and prayed; though they always denied that by this act they paid any adoration to the *back*; they declared that God alone was worshipped through this medium.

To amuse the young people, quantities of wampum were scattered upon the ground, for which they scrambled, and he that got the most was considered the best fellow. At these feasts, four persons, who were styled *servants*, had been appointed, whose business it was to wait, or serve, day and night; who were paid in wampum, with the privilege to take the choice provisions, such as sugar, eggs, butter, bilberries, &c., and dispose of them to the guests, and appropriate the proceeds to their own benefit. The festivals were always closed, after the whites had been trafficking with the Indians, with a general drinking-about of *lum*. Besides these principal feasts, they had many others of minor importance.

Depending, as they did, for a supply of food, principally taken in the chase, hunting constituted their chief employment, and next to war, was considered the most honorable; they were experienced hunters; their boys were trained to this business, whom they taught when quite young to climb trees, "both to catch birds and to exercise their sight, which by this method was rendered so quick, that in hunting, they saw objects at an amazing distance. In detecting and pursuing game, they almost exceeded the best trained dog, in following its course." Their principal weapons used by the Indian hunters, were bows and arrows; some had rifles. Their hunting excursions continued for months, sometimes. Before they entered a long hunt, they would usually shoot one or more deer, and kept a feast of sacrifice, and invited the old men to assist in praying for success. Some of the more credulous bathed and painted before they set off; and the more superstitious kept a fast before, and during the season. They assigned as a reason for fasting, that it helped them to dream, and in their dreams they said they were informed of the haunts of the game, and of the most successful method of propitiating the ire of evil spirits, during the hunting season. If the dreamer fancied that he saw an Indian, who had left this stage of action for years, and heard him say, "If thou wilt sacrifice to me, thou shalt shoot deer at pleasure," they instantly prepared a sacrifice, burnt the whole, or part of a deer, in honor of the apparition. They observed other ceremonies, and made use of charms to promote their success.

(CONTINUED IN NEXT ISSUE.)

Operating in Bedford.

George Homan and Ellis S. Shaffer, of Madisonburg, the successful lumbermen operating as Homan & Shaffer, have purchased a large timber tract in Providence township, Bedford county, and will begin operating the same early next year, putting in their own mill. The timber is estimated at 2,000,000 feet and is probably the best of its size in Bedford county. These gentlemen are at present operating on the W. F. Smith tract in Gregg township, where they have been handling some immense lumber.—Journal.

Shamokin Dam to be Removed.

The citizens of Shamokin Dam, on the Snyder county side of the Susquehanna river, as well as the citizens of Sunbury and vicinity on the eastern side of the river, are greatly disturbed over the fact that the Pennsylvania Canal Company has decided to tear out the dam which has stood for nearly a century. Between Sunbury and Northumberland.

SUCCESSFUL HUNTERS

Large Number of Deer were Shot this Season.

SOME RESULTS OF THE CHASE

Names of some of the Successful Nimrods—Few Incidents of the Chase—Hunting Season will close Friday November 30.

Romola hunters, so far, killed six deer this season.

A State College hunting party has four deer killed.

The hunting party from Hannah killed two deer last week.

A party from Keating and Renova six in number, killed ten deer on Trout run.

The Modocks of Boalsburg, have four deer to their credit; this is an old party and always in luck.

The score of the Poters Mills Regulars up to end of last week, was six deer. The R. A. M., of the same locality, killed four this season.

County Detective Rightnow came home Friday morning from a hunting trip in the Alleghenies. Joe insists that he killed the deer, he brought home.

Frank Brindle, aged 19 years, of Ferguson township, Mifflin county, accidentally shot and fatally wounded himself while hunting on Thursday of last week.

Some put the number of deer killed in this county this season as high as one hundred—this we think is some twenty too high. The Seven mountain region furnished about half of these.

Editor Harter, of Bellefonte, Jacob Test of Philipsburg, and Joe Rightnow, of Bellefonte, each on a lone hunt, had a deer to bring home. The Welsh Brothers of Millhall, and the Lewisburg hunters, each party left the woods with a deer and a bear.

Thomas McCartney and Harry Sayers, of Romola, hunted at the head of "Beauty Run," about six miles northeast of Snow Shoe, and killed three deer. Mr. Sayers had never before seen a deer in the woods, and when two came past him at fall tilt he shot them both.

KILLED TWO FINE BUCKS.

The hunting party from the lower end of Haines township, which spent last week in the Seven mountains, boarded the train for home last Friday afternoon. They were fortunate enough to kill two large bucks, and went home with smiles. The party consisted of six hunters and a cook, among the nimrods were J. J. Orndorf, Mike Hess, Theodore Hosterman, F. P. Musser, Sam'l Lingle and Hoover. This makes the number of deer killed in the Seven mountain region, this season, almost forty.

HUNTING IN WYOMING.

William C. Caldwell, of Rock Springs, Wyoming, son of D. T. Caldwell, of Tyrone, last week wrote home and gave a very interesting account of a big hunt he recently had part in. He reports having had a fine hunting trip. The party left Rock Springs on October 4 and drove to their camping grounds, which were about 135 or 140 miles from a railroad, right in the heart of the Wind River mountains. Mr. Caldwell was successful in killing one elk and seven antelope. All told the party killed three elk, eleven antelope, and any amount of prairie chickens which he says are as plenty as sparrows with us. That is hunting as it is hunting.

HUNTER KILLED.

Wright Riley, of Woodland, Clearfield, Co., was instantly killed Wednesday afternoon 21st and Ulysses Walker, a man who was with him, made a very narrow escape from meeting the same fate. The men were out hunting and had shot and wounded a rabbit, which ran into a hole. While both men were looking at the hole where the rabbit had gone, a large tree some forty feet away suddenly blew over, and pulling up the roots, thereby giving no warning, and in falling hit Walker and knocked him some distance and struck Riley on the head, crushing in the skull and causing instant death. Mr. Riley was about 42 years of age, and leaves a wife and several children to mourn his very sad death. He at one time lived in Philipsburg and was the leader of the Philipsburg band.

Sober's Crack Shot.

C. K. Sober, of Lewisburg, shot a pheasant on the wing with a weasel clinging to its neck. Both specimens are in the hands of a taxidermist for mounting. The pheasant weighed one and a half pounds.

Lumber Plant Damaged.

The heavy rains of the past 24 hours slightly damaged the Kulp Lumber Company's plant at Milroy and floated away some logs.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

Have you had a kindness shown? Pass it on.
'Twas not done for you alone— Pass it on.
Let it wipe another's tears— Let it travel down the years, Till in Heaven it appears— Pass it on!

The butcher's shop is a public meeting place.
An Indian summer—A Carlisle student in arithmetic.

Men swear when they meet a crisis; a woman cries.

There is no reason why a blind man should not go to sea.

Lend, and the world laughs at you; borrow and you borrow a loan.

The successful blacksmith may honestly forge a name for himself.

When a fellow buys his trousers on credit are they breeches of promise?

When Jack Frost wants a bite he doesn't go to a bakery for lady fingers.

An eagle is sometimes big enough to ride on, and some men go off on a lark.

Some men are like cheap posters; a little money causes them to be stuck up.

A girl can easily make a goose of herself by talking about her swan-like neck.

The house decorator doesn't fall in business every time he goes to the wall.

Some people gain reputations for cleverness when they are simply disgraceful.

"The men of most means," says the Manvunk Philosopher, "are the meanest of most men."

The fellow who tries to borrow money from a distant relative sometime discovers that even a distant relative can be close.

REAPPORTIONMENT.

If the State were reapportioned under the census of 1900 the following counties would be entitled to one State senator each: Westmoreland, Erie, Fayette, Cambria, Berks, Chester, Dauphin, Lancaster, Montgomery, Northampton, Schuylkill, York, and Lackawanna. Luzerne would have two senators. Allegheny would have six senators. Philadelphia would have ten senators according to population, but the constitutional limitation will cut her representation down to eight.

The following counties would be entitled to one representative each: Forest, Green, Indiana, Bedford, Clarion, Adams, Cameron, Carbon, Centre, Clinton, Columbia, Elk, Forest, Fulton, Huntingdon, Juniata, Mifflin, Monroe, Montour, Perry, Pike, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Union, Warren, Wayne and Wyoming.

The following counties would be entitled to two representatives each: Crawford, Jefferson, Mercer, Somerset, Venango, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Bradford, Bucks, Cumberland, Franklin, Lawrence, Lebanon, Lycoming, McKean and Tioga.

The following would be entitled to three representatives each: Washington, Erie, Cambria, Clearfield, Blair, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh and Northampton.

Fayette, Dauphin, Montgomery and York would be entitled to four representatives each.

Westmoreland, Lancaster and Berks would be entitled to five representatives each.

Lackawanna and Schuylkill would be entitled to six representatives each.

Luzerne would be entitled to eight representatives.

Philadelphia would be entitled to 41 representatives.

The West Virginia Deer Have Come—

So many deer having been killed by our hunters this fall, led us to inquire of hunters how they account for game being so unusually plentiful this season, as evidenced by the good luck that was the lot of hunting parties. We are informed that the West Virginia deer have come up into our mountains, supposedly driven up this way by the large lumber operations going on down there. We are also told that Franklin and some other counties are full of these West Virginia deer. The deer in that state are to be distinguished from the deer of our own mountains in that they are darker along the back than the Pennsylvania deer, and the horns of these new-comers are not near as thick at the root and have a spiral shape near the head, the horns of the bucks being more slender than those of the Pennsylvania deer.

These differences have been noticed on many of the deer killed by our hunters this season. F. P. Musser, of Millheim, who has hunted in West Virginia, and knows what the deer down there are like, confirms the above facts from his own observations of the deer which he saw that had been killed in our mountains this fall. The theory is entirely plausible, and our lovers of the chase will be only too glad to have the new game pour into our hunting grounds. They are the same size of body, but more long-legged than our deer.