

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KULZ, Proprietor.

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OUR HISTORICAL REVIEW

More About Thrilling Adventures During the Revolution

FAMOUS WYOMING MASSACRE

A Whole Colony Cruelly Exterminated by the Most Brutal and Barbarous Methods—An Interesting Story Retold.

CHAPTER XIII.

Account of the dreadful devastation of Wyoming settlements in July, 1778. From Gordon's History of the American War.

So early as the 8th of February, 1778, General Schuyler wrote to congress—"There is too much reason to believe that an expedition will be formed (by the Indians) against the western frontiers of this state (New York) Virginia and Pennsylvania." The next month he informed them—"A number of Mohawks, and many of the Onondagoes, Cayugas and Senecas, will commence hostilities against us as soon as they can; it would be prudent therefore early to take measures to carry the war into their country; it would require no greater body of troops to destroy their towns than to protect the frontier inhabitants." No effectual measures being taken to repress the hostile spirit of the Indians, numbers joined the tory refugees, and with these commenced their horrid depredations and hostilities upon the back settlements, being headed by Colonel Butler, and Brandt, an half blooded Indian, of desperate courage, ferocious and cruel beyond example. Their expeditions were carried on to great advantage, by the exact knowledge which the refugees possessed of every object of their enterprise, and the immediate intelligence they received from their friends on the spot. The weight of their hostilities fell upon the fine, new and flourishing settlements of Wyoming, situated on the eastern branch of the Susquehanna, in a most beautiful country and delightful climate. It was settled and cultivated with great ardor by a number of people from Connecticut, which claimed the territory as included in this original grant from Charles II. The settlement consisted of eight townships, each five miles square, beautifully placed on each side of the river. It had increased so by a rapid population, that the settlers sent a thousand men to serve in the continental army. To provide against the dangers of their remote situation, four forts were erected to cover them from the irruptions of the Indians. But it was their unhappiness, to have a considerable mixture of royalists among them; and the two parties were actuated by sentiments of the most violent animosity, which was not confined to particular families or places; but creeping within the roofs and to the hearts and floors, where it was least to be expected, served equally to poison the sources of domestic security and happiness, and to cancel the laws of nature and humanity.

They had frequent and timely warnings of the danger to which they were exposed by sending their best men to so great a distance. Their quiet had been very frequently interrupted by the Indians, joined by marauding parties of their own countrymen, in the preceding year; and it was only by a vigorous opposition, in a course of successful skirmishes, that they had been driven off. Several Tories, and others not before suspected, had then and since abandoned the settlement; and beside a perfect knowledge of all their particular circumstances, carried along with them such a stock of private resentment, as could not fail of directing the fury, and even giving an edge to the cruelty of their Indian and other inveterate enemies. An unusual number of strangers had come among them under various pretences, whose behavior became so suspicious, upon being taken up and examined, such evidence appeared against several of them, of their acting in concert with the enemy, on a scheme for the destruction of the settlements, that about twenty were sent off to Connecticut to be there imprisoned and tried for their lives, while the remainder were expelled. These measures excited the rage of the Tories in general to the most extreme degree; and the threats formerly denounced against the settlers, were now renewed with aggravated vengeance.

As the time approached for the final catastrophe, the Indians practiced unusual treachery. For several weeks previous to the intended attack, they repeatedly sent small parties to the settlements, charged with the professions of friendship. These parties, besides attempting to lull the people in security, answered the purposes of communicating with their friends, and of observing the present state of affairs. The settlers, however, were not insensible to the danger. They had taken the alarm, and

Colonel Zebulon Butler had several times written letters to congress and General Washington, acquainting them with the danger the settlement was in, and requesting assistance; but the letters were never received, having been intercepted by the Pennsylvania Tories. A little before the main attack, some small parties made sudden irruptions, and committed several robberies and murders; and from ignorance or a contempt of all ties whatever, massacred the wife and five children of one of the persons sent for trial to Connecticut, in their own cause.

At length, in the beginning of July, the enemy suddenly appeared in full force on the Susquehanna, headed by Colonel John Butler, a Connecticut Tory, and cousin to Colonel Zebulon Butler, the second in command in the settlement. He was assisted by most of those leaders, who had rendered themselves terrible in the present frontier war. Their force was about 1600 men, near a fourth Indians, led by their own chiefs; the others were so disguised and painted, as not to be distinguished from the Indians, excepting their officers, who, being dressed in regimentals, carried the appearance of regulars. One of the smaller forts, garrisoned chiefly by Tories, was given up or rather betrayed. Another was taken by storm, and all but the women and children massacred in the most inhuman manner.

Colonel Zebulon Butler, leaving a small number to guard Fort Wilkesborough, crossed the river with about 400 men, and marched into Kingston fort, whither the women, children, and defenceless of all sorts crowded for protection. He suffered himself to be enticed by his cousin to abandon the fortress. He agreed to march out, and hold a conference with the enemy in the open field (at so great a distance from the fort, as to shut out all possible protection from it) upon their withdrawing, according to their own proposal, in order to the holding of a parley, such was his distrust of the enemy's designs. On his arrival he found nobody to treat with, and yet advanced toward the foot of the mountain, where at a distance he saw a flag, the holders of which seemingly afraid of treachery on his side, retired as he advanced; whilst he, endeavoring to remove this pretended ill-impression, pursued the flag, till his party was thoroughly enclosed, when he was suddenly freed from his delusion, by finding it attacked at once on every side. He and his men, notwithstanding the surprise and danger, fought with resolution and bravery, and kept up so continual and heavy a fire for three quarters of an hour, that they seemed to gain a marked superiority. In this critical moment a soldier through a sudden impulse of fear, cried out aloud—"the colonel has ordered a retreat." The fate of the party was now at once determined. In the state of confusion that ensued, an unresisted slaughter commenced, while the enemy broke in on all sides without obstruction. Colonel Zebulon Butler, and about seventy of his men escaped; the latter got across the river to Fort Wilkesborough, the colonel made his way to Fort Kingston which was invested the next day on the land side. The enemy, to sadden the drooping spirits of the weak remaining garrison, sent in for their contemplation, the bloody scalps of a hundred and ninety-six of their late friends and comrades. They kept up a continual fire upon the fort the whole day. In the evening the colonel quitted the fort and went down the river with his family. He is thought to be the only officer that escaped.

Colonel Nathan Dennison, who succeeded to the command, seeing the impossibility of an effectual defence, went with a flag to Colonel John Butler, to know what terms he would grant on a surrender; to which application Butler answered with more than savage plegm in two short words—the hatchet. Dennison having defended the fort, till most of the garrison were killed or disabled, was compelled to surrender at discretion. Some of the unhappy persons in the fort were carried away alive; but the barbarous conquerors, to save the trouble of murder in detail, shut up the rest promiscuously in the houses and barracks; which having set on fire, they enjoyed the savage pleasure of beholding the whole consumed in one general blaze.

They then crossed the river to the only remaining fort, Wilkesborough, which, in hopes of mercy, surrendered without demanding any conditions. They found about seventy continental soldiers, who had been engaged merely for the defence of the frontiers, whom they butchered with every circumstance of horrid cruelty. The remainder of the men, with the women and children, were shut up as before in the houses, which being set on fire, they perished together in the flames.

A general scene of devastation was now spread through all the townships. Fire, sword, and the other different instruments of destruction alternately tri-

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VARIETY OF COUNTY NEWS

Items of Interest Gathered From All Sections

SHORT AND TO THE POINT

What Transpired Worthy of Brief Mention, the Past Week—News From Over the County—For Hasty Readers—A New Department.

Crop prospects from all parts of the county are good.

F. B. Styers has left Coburn for Patton, where he expects to get employment.

Spigelmeyer has his new building for the Millheim postoffice about completed.

Emanuel Reed will have sale of western horses, at Millheim, tomorrow, Friday.

David Bohn's sale, in Harris footed up near \$2100—one of the largest held this season.

Ric'd Brooks, of Pleasant Gap, has moved on George M. Boal's farm at Earlstown.

Wm. Throssel has taken possession of the old Simon Rote blacksmith stand at Aaronsburg.

Lung fever caused the death of a valuable horse of Daniel Rover, of Miles, a few days ago.

Mrs. Daniel Karstetter, one of the oldest ladies in Sugar Valley, is critically ill with pneumonia, at Loganton.

The governor has appointed G. H. Reifsnider notary public for Millheim, which he can fill most efficiently.

Jacob Hessel, aged 81 years, who has his home with his son in law, Wm. Bower, near Potters Mills, is in frail health.

Coburn has a new merchant, John Geisewite, formerly of Aaronsburg, who has taken the grocery opposite the station.

Merchant J. H. Long, of Springs Mills, will go to Steubenville, O., to engage in the mercantile business with his brother Frank.

Mrs. T. C. Helms lately making a stay with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Hess, at Linden Hall, has returned to her home at Oceola.

Rev. J. P. Shultz, of New Berlin, is the newly appointed United Evangelical minister at Centre Hall, to which place he moved last week.

On Saturday morning 23, Matthias Strayer, 84 years of age, and a highly respected citizen of Miles township, was stricken with paralysis.

W. W. Wikel and family left Phillipsburg for Renovo, where he has been engaged for some months as superintendent of the fire brick works.

Clair Stam, an employe of the Linden Hall Lumber Co., had the misfortune to get his hand into the cutoff saw and had several of his fingers severely cut.

C. J. Finkle will open an implement store in the room kept at a shoe store by C. A. Krape, at Springs Mills. Mr. Finkle has been in that line some years.

John, son of William Musser, of Piedler, aged 14, broke his wrist while assisting at the flitting of Jacob Stover, who was moving from Pine creek to the Benjamin Hassler farm.

Miss Louise Hensyl, daughter of the late Dr. H. C. Hensyl, of Howard, left Tuesday for Philadelphia where she will enter a hospital to prepare herself in the profession of a trained nurse.

Governor Stone has signed the bill which will now enable the Central Pennsylvania college to issue teachers' certificates and puts the institution on the same basis as other larger colleges in the state.

Miss Dorothy Conrad, of Vintondale, near our county lines, threw a shovelful of coal on the fire last week, and thereby lost a thumb and three fingers. A dynamite cap imbedded in the fuel exploded and caused the unfortunate accident.

While at play at the home of her parents W. P. Alexander's, at Spring Mills, a few days ago, a little daughter of 7 years, accidentally fell into a well, and came high being drowned and was only saved by the timely arrival of her father.

L. W. Strunk, of Nittany Valley, was kicked by a horse and seriously injured. He was chasing the horse in the stable when the animal kicked at him striking him square on the stomach. He was in an unconscious condition for a short time; he suffered great pain but is reported to be slightly improved.

Rev. Ralph Illingworth, who once served the Centre Hall M. E. charge, is a candidate for the appointment as pastor of the Presbyterian church, at Phillipsburg. He was formerly from Stormstown and was a Methodist minister having at one time been pastor of several different churches in this county.

Wolf's Store has a new postmaster, J. Y. Stover.

J. C. Krumrine and wife, of Penn township, moved to Smithport, McKean county.

Miss Emma C. Lowry was appointed a missionary to Africa, and will sail from New York City for Cape Town, South Africa, on April 17, 1901.

Miss Mabel Boal will retire as assistant postmistress at Centre Hall as soon as her successor, W. D. Shoop, gets acquainted with the business of the office.

Andrew Robertson, of North Phillipsburg, who buried his wife one week ago, died on Saturday afternoon last, the result of a general breaking down of the system.

A musical convention will be held in the Methodist church, of Kennedy, Saturday evening, April 6, by Prof. Pletcher, of Eagleville. Admission 5 and 10 cents.

T. G. Edmunds, who for the past 34 years has been of Aaronsburg, Pa., has sold his property at Aaronsburg and is going on an extended visit to his children at Northampton county.

Wm. Braucht, formerly of Coburn, the past two years lumbering in West Virginia, is home on a visit. He likes it down there and says there is plenty of work for all who want a job.

Since he secured his liquor license Enoch Hugg has begun work on an addition to the Swan hotel, at Phillipsburg the size of which will be 22x30. The work will be pushed as rapidly as possible.

George A. Ewerie, a lumberman, died at Lock Haven on Friday, aged 90. He was the father of seven sons, four of whom served in the Civil War. One of his grandsons served in the Cuban and Philippine wars.

Johnson Beck, of Carroll, Clinton Co., who has been ill some time with dropsy, ate a hearty dinner on Monday, and shortly after expired suddenly. He was 65 years old. His wife, two sons and two daughters survive.

B. L. Tressler, of Linden Hall, on Friday morning met with what might have proved a serious accident. In the act of shooting the barrel in his gun burst, tearing out a piece about six inches long from the barrel. The powder scorched his face and the report almost deafened him.

Robert Mingle, proprietor of a Pine street restaurant, at Phillipsburg, fell into the cellar of the Ramsdale House, and sustained a serious fracture of the skull and other injuries. He has been lying unconscious nearly ever since and grave doubts of his recovery are entertained, says the Ledger.

The Spring Mills hotel under the new management of Edwin Ruhl has been remodeled, refurbished and painted throughout. Mr. Ruhl, since his control and management of the hotel, has conducted the business very satisfactorily. During the summer, he will put an additional story to the hotel.

Smith Bros., the extensive furniture dealers and undertakers of Spring Mills, are making preparations to erect a large, handsome store building in which to conduct their business. The building will be two and one half stories high, one hundred by forty feet, and will be fitted up with all the modern improvements and conveniences.

Landlord Musser, of Millheim, is able to be about again, though his hand still gives him trouble from the burns he received. The hotel is superintended by G. E. Mensch, temporarily. Mr. Musser by spells suffers much from the accidental gunshot wound received many years ago, while out hunting, the ball never having been taken from his shoulder.

Pennsylvania's oldest tramp, John Lynch, an octogenarian, died in the Reading almshouse, Monday, after fifty years of wandering life. It was his boast that for over half a century he had slept under the open sky or in the shelter of barns. We guess Abe Lacey, (Lacey) who tramped Centre and Union counties, away back, has as long, if not a longer record than Lynch, as a tramp, "before Lynch was Lacey."

Wm. M. Cupper, brakeman on the Bald Eagle Valley railroad, was thrown from a car Tuesday 26, at Snow Shoe Intersection, caused by the brake chain breaking while he was applying the brakes. He alighted on his head and shoulders, and suffered a fracture of the collar bone and some slight contusions of the head. Mr. Cupper had just resumed work after having been off most of the winter on account of illness.

ODELL, New York's plucky governor, is receiving praise from all parts of the land for letting senator Platt know that he was not going to submit to bossing.

If Centre county is no longer to be the mother of governors, "coming events cast their shadows before them," that she bids fair to be the mother of judges.

AGUINALDO CAPTURED

Complete Story of a Remarkable Adventure

GEN. FUNSTON THE HERO

Who Planned the Expedition at Great Risk—Aguinaldo at Manila—Takes Oath of Allegiance to the United States.

Washington, March 28.—A cablegram received at the war department late this afternoon from General MacArthur tells in a sufficient way the history of Aguinaldo's capture, gives all credit for the brilliant exploit to General Funston, whose reward it suggests should be that of a brigadier general in the regular army, and finally closes with an expression of confidence in the speedy cessation of hostilities throughout the Philippine Archipelago as a result of the capture. Except that it makes no reference to the disposition to be made of Aguinaldo, the despatch covers the whole field of gossip and speculation excited in Washington by the news that Funston's adventurous expedition had been crowned with complete success. The cablegram is as follows:

Manila, March 28.—Important messages fell into hands General Funston, February 28, from which Aguinaldo was located at Palanan, Isabella Province. Expedition organized, consisting of Aguinaldo's captured messenger, four ex-insurgent officers and seventy-eight Macabebes, who spoke Tagalo, armed Mausers, Remingtons, dressed to represent insurgents. Funston commanded, accompanied by Captain Russell T. Hazzard, Eleventh Cavalry; Capt. Harry W. Newton, Thirty-fourth Infantry; Lieutenant Oliver P. M. Hazzard, Eleventh United States Volunteer Cavalry; Lieutenant Burton J. Mitchell, Fortieth United States Volunteer Infantry. Officers dressed as American privates, and represented as prisoners. Expedition sailed Manila March 6. Vicksburg landed March 14, east coast Luzon, twenty miles south Casiguran. Reached Palanan, marching there, afternoon March 23. Natives completely misled. Supposed detachment insurgent re-inforcements, for which supplies furnished. Aguinaldo also sent supplies, and had his escort, forty men, paraded to extend proper honor. Short distance Aguinaldo's quarters disguise discarded; combat followed, resulting 2 insurgents killed, 18 rifles, 1000 rounds ammunition captured, together with Aguinaldo and two principal staff officers. No casualties our side. Splendid co-operation navy, through Commander Barry, officers, men; Vicksburg indispensable to success. Funston loudly praises navy. Entire army joins in thanks to sea service.

The transaction was brilliant in conception and faultless in execution. All credit must go to Funston, who, under supervision General Wheaton, organized and conducted expedition from start to finish. His reward should be signal and immediate. With General Wheaton, who recommends Funston's retention volunteers until he can be appointed Brigadier General, regulars.

I hope speedy cessation hostilities throughout archipelago, as consequence this stroke. As result of conferences now in progress probable. Aguinaldo will issue address advising general surrender, delivery arms, acceptance American supremacy.

MACARTHUR.

GENERAL FUNSTON'S STORY.

Manila, March 28.—Aguinaldo, who was captured by General Funston and brought to Manila on the United States gunboat Vicksburg, was brought ashore at 3:10 p. m. to-day and taken before General MacArthur at the Malacanang Palace. He talked freely, but seemed ignorant concerning recent events. He appeared to be in good health, and was even cheerful. He lunched with the officers of General MacArthur's staff, and was then escorted to the Anda street jail. Aguinaldo's capture was attended with considerable difficulty, an insurgent major being killed at the time of the event. Twenty rifles and a number of important papers were captured.

General Funston to-day made the following statement concerning the capture of the Filipino leader: The confidential agent of Aguinaldo arrived February 28 at Pantabangan, in the province of Nueva Ecija, Northern Luzon, with letters dated January 11, 12 and 14. These letters were from Emilio Aguinaldo, and directed Baldermero /aguinaldo to take command of the provinces of Central Luzon, supplanting General Alajandrino. Emilio Aguinaldo also ordered that 400 men be sent him as soon as possible, saying that the bearer of the letters would guide these men to where Aguinaldo was.

General Funston secured the correspondence of Aguinaldo's agent and laid his plans accordingly. Some months previously he had captured the camp of the insurgent General Lacuna, incidentally obtaining Lacuna's seal, official papers and a

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FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

A MOTHER'S LOVE.

When a boy is far away from home,
What pleases him the most?
Why, it's when a letter comes to him
From mother thro' the post!
No matter if the silver hairs
Appear upon his head,
He's still his mother's boy as when
His hair was carrot red!

Tho' thirty years have left their marks,
And seared his careworn face,
In mother's eyes he's yet a lad
Without Time's telltale trace!
Her letter thus begins: "Dear boy,"
It set his heart a thrill!
To think that mother knows him as
A little shaver still!

A mother's love is as a charm
The sesame of youth!
One feels that age has naught to do
With Love or Life or Truth,
When'er he gets a letter from
His mother far away,
Who sees naught but the guileless child,
Behind the man grown gray.
—Boston Journal.

A fireman—the "bouncer."
Millions in it—the United States treasury.

It's easier to keep house than to keep servants.

No man is blind to the faults of his neighbors.

You might call twins a "pear" on the family tree.

A joke is one thing that isn't injured by being cracked.

Some doctors are not satisfied to let well enough alone.

The "model young man" is not always a working model.

A literary person may abhor pork and still be very fond of Bacon.

Some music is well executed, while other music is simply butchered.

When a girl has a fellow under her thumb he is generally Miss-managed.

It isn't true that the musical conductor gets ahead of time when he beats it.

The dramatist may be fully employed and still be looking for a good situation.

HONOR AGUINALDO SAYS CARNEGIE.

Andrew Carnegie recently gave the following for publication: "If Aguinaldo has been captured I am sure President McKinley will direct that he shall be treated like a brave foe, who has fallen a victim to the fate of war; remembering that had Washington been captured he would have been called a rebel like Aguinaldo. Everything is pardonable to a leader who fights for the independence of his country against an invader. History will record Aguinaldo's cause as sacred to him, regardless of our views now. Therefore he must be honored in captivity."

Lots of Pictures.

One hundred photographs of women adorn the walls of James McKeague's residence at Rauchtown, Clinton county. The pictures were sent during the advertisement of his sale, which he made because he could not get a housekeeper, with the hope of capturing the old "batch" and stopping the sale.

A Brute.

Alderman Anthony, of Lock Haven, committed James Verrier to jail, in default of \$5000 bail, for trial at court. Verrier last Friday night shamefully abused his father by knocking him down and bruising and blacking both eyes until they were terribly swollen. Shame on such a brute of a son.

Mountain Fires Again.

Mountain fires have already shown their glare; on Monday night the mountains north of Bellefonte were on fire over a large space, the display being fine viewed from town, and damaging to the new growth.

Married at Spruce Creek.

Mrs. Bella Borst was happily married to Newton Neidigt, of Pine Grove Mills, Tuesday 26 at noon at the home of the bride's father, D. P. Henderson, of Spruce Creek.

NEBRASKA at last has elected two republican senators, after a long and bitter fight between the factions of that party. All other candidates were thrown over board and two drab horses, of mediocre ability, were elected before the legislature adjourned the other day. This leaves Delaware the only state without senators, as its republican factions could not harmonize even as to taking dark horses.

—In next week's issue we will endeavor to give our readers a summary of the movings over the county. Our correspondents will please note this and send their report in early as possible.

—Too late now for "April fool," that was ripe last Monday—though many may still be fooled to know where they and some of their once neighbors are.