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OUR HISTORICAL REVIEW

Gen. Potter's Discovery of Penn's Valley-

RED MILL, THE FIRST MILL

etc., etc.

CHAPTER XIV.

Pennsvalley, after its discovery, was the first to be peopled with settlers, and there the pioneers were more harassed by the Indians than on the west side of the county, the savages finding it to yield more scalps and plunder from its settlers. For safety against the incursions of the Indians, three forts were erected, the main fort being the historic Potter's Fort, and two local forts, the one a few miles east of Spring Mills, near where Krider's, now Ertel's, mill is, and the other in the lower end of Haines, west of the present pike three miles east of Aaronsburg; to these local forts the settlers from that part of the valley went for safety when the danger from savages was not too serious. These little forts were erected near streams or springs so that water was within safe reach. In the period of the organization of the county, there were some 30 to 40 distilleries in the valley, and only two or three churches, the one the old Lutheran church at Aaronsburg, the Pennington M. E. church a mile east of Centre Hall, and the so-called Loop church. At that day the Lutheran and German Reformed congregations erected "Union" houses of worship in which both denominations worshipped in harmony as per regula-Jions as to day for their respective appointments. The Loop church, Robersburg church, Harper's church in Haines, X church in Georges valley, and others, were of these "Union" churches, as also the Union church at Farmers Mills. Most of these edifices are still serving as "Union" churches. Among the oldest cemeteries in the valley come the Pennington graveyard a mile east of Centre Hall, the Union cemetery at Tusseyville and the Lutheran cemetery at Aarons-

The oldest town in the valley is Aarons burg which in "Ye olden time" was the main business centre in the county, with crowded streets, now so charmingly silent with pretty homes and happy and contented people. Potters Mills was a busy point in those days under the dominion of the wealthy Potters. But it too has become quiet. These points gradually lost their trade and importance by the coming into existence of such villages as Miliheim, Rebersburg, Spring Mills, Woodward, Boalsburg and others, which, with their stores and shops, pared down and took away the trade of the older towns above named. The Felmlee imwovements in Potter, tavern and farm property at the foot of Nittany mountain (now Centre Hall) were among the first in that locality. The old Felmlee tavern stand that stood on the lot where the Centre Hall Lutheran church now stands, was purchased by ex-Sheriff John Spangler, moved down church street and remodeled to serve as a double dwelling. The actual beginning of that pretty village dates from the erection of the large hotel by Henry Witmer, in 1847; from that time many improvements were made.

Penns valley, Chief Justice Tilghman, in all the land surveyed, or five hundred an address delivered at an early date, proprietary lands were selected and surgave the following narrative of events, which led to the discovery of Penns val-

whom early habits rendered a life of ture had given him a powerful and ath- ance. frame. As an officer of the British Provincial army, engaged in the defense of idea that, inclosed by the range of mounon his return from Kittanning, there May 18, 1791, to John Harper. No. dered to Fort Augusta, his idea of a fine country to be discovered again returned to him. Having obtained leave of absence, he set off with one attendant in the summer of the year 1764. Passing up the West Branch, he reached the mouth of Bald Eagle Creek, a distance of seventy-five miles. Then passing up Blad Eagle Creek to the place where Spring Creek enters it, a distance of thirty miles, they took to the mountains, and, having reached the top of Nittany Mountain, Capt. Potter, seeing the prairies and noble forest beneath him, cried out to his attendant, 'By heavens, Thompson, I have discovered an empire!' Immediately descending into the the red mill.

plain they came to a spring, at a place VARIETY OF tion, now known by the appellation of 'Old Fort,' owned by Capt. Potter's grandson.

"Here the adventurers found themselves out of provisions, and for two days and as many nights the flesh scraped from a dried beaver's skin was their only substance. With starvation staring them in the face, Capt. Potter determined Three Forts-Churches and Cemeteries on striking through the mountains for -Potter Township Assessment of Fort Augusta, and by good fortune hap-1774-Surveys-Manor of Succoth, pened on a creek, to which they gave the name of John Penn's Creek, little dreaming it was the same creek which entered the Susquehanna at the Isle of Que, known as Penn's Creek. Pursuing the stream, they arrived where provisions could be had, and finally reached Fort Augusta. Capt. Potter and his companion communicated their discovery, and it so happened that an Indian, Job Chilloway, was at the fort on their arrival. Learning that they had been in the valley, and determining that if it gone to work for the Central Commermust be lost to the Indians he at least cial Telephone Co. would profit by their loss, he goes to Col. Hunter and sells to him the right of discovery. Col. Hunter makes speed to diamond of that place. Philadelphia and sells his right to Reuben Haines. In the mean time Capt. Potter hurries to Philadelphia to make application and procure warrants."

On this we remark that it is true that Capt. Potter was on the 2d of October, 1764, in command of three companies on the northern frontiers (Pa. Archives, 2d series, vol. ii. p. 615), and possibly Thompson was the Thomas Thompson agent c. the Aultman Company, of and besides her husband leaves one child alluded to in Fithian's Journal, page 17, post. But we are satisfied the discovery was in 1759, just after the purchase of 1758, when Potter was at Bedford (Ibid., chant, is contemplating closing out his forests of Knox township, Clearfield p. 558), and had been just promated captain of William Thompson's company the mercantile business. (Capt. Thompson having resigned), and that Capt. Thompson was his companion. tract for carrying the mail from Boals-The tradition is that Haines and Potter burg to Shingletown, beginning July 1st. compromised, Haines taking the eastern He succeeds James Reed. end of Penn's valley up to Spring Mills, and Potter's first warrants, of Aug. 1, has just been appointed as an assistant George Buchanan's just south of Penn partment at State College.

That the discovery was made in 1759. or at least before 1764, is decided by the fact that the warrant of reservation of the manor of Nottingham, west of the fort, is dated Dec. 16, 1763, and is accurately described as near the Indian Blanchard singing class, under the direcrom the head of Penn's Creek to old Frankstown.

Surveys of 1766 all of Penn's valley evening, April 27th. Bouquet had dictated his own terms of buds are in good condition and the pros- seen on the bank. peace to the subdued Delawares and pects as favorable for a large yield as Shawanese, on the banks of the Muskin- last year at this time. Unless a late gum, on the 14th of November, 1764, and frost should interfere the crop will be Lieutentant-Governor John Penn's pro- large. clamation thereof, Dec. 5, 1764, that settlements and improvements were resumed west of the Susquehanna.

on the west side of the river, and on the A. Z. Myers, Philipsburg, president; 5th of August, 1766, was opened for Rev.J. Rearick, Centre Hall, vice pres.; lands on the west side, on the same terms Rev. A. A. Black, Boalsburg, Cor. secreas for those on the east side. No more tary; S. W. Smith, Centre Hall, Rec. than three hundred acres could be ap secretary; A. Lukenbach, Bellefonte, plied for by any one without a special treasurer; Rev. D. E. Hepler, Lemont, order, but this restriction was evaded by Sec. home Dep't work; Rev. C. T. Aikapplications in the names of friends or ens, Pine Grove Mills, C. M. Bower, Esq., employees, who by deed poll subsequent- Bellefonte, Ex. committee; George Noll, of Elk county; and Senator Heinle, of laid the hinged portion on the cheek, inly conveyed their right to the person Milesburg, chairman local committee of this place. paying the purchase money. Baynton, arrangements. Wharton, and Morris, for instance, used the names of their sailors, stevedores, and clerks.

Their instructions required the deputy surveyors to survey for the use of the Of the first entry of the white man into honorable the proprietaries one-tenth of out of every five thousand acres. These veyed first. Accordingly the first legal survey in Penn's valley was the "Manor of Succoth," made under the direction of William Maclay, deputy surveyor, on "Capt. James Potter was a man of the 22d day of September, 1766, described strong and penetrating mind, and one to as on the head of Penn's Creek, above

the great spring and northwest thereof. peril, toil, and enterprise familiar. Na- hundred and twenty acres and allow-Manor of Succoth contained eight The Penns (of whom John lived letic frame of body, with a mind which might well give tone to an herculean county-seat of Audrew Allen, in Berks county) held the manor until in January, 1791 when they had it divided into three purparts. No. 1, the western purpart, the frontier, he conceived the natural they sold to George Riddles (Gen. Potter's son-in-law) and George Woods. It tains which on every side met his view et al. No. 2, adjoining No. 1, they sold must be a fine country. After being or. was sold by the Penns to Archibald Allison, and embraces the property still owned by his descendants.

POTTER TOWNSHIP ASSESSMENT, 1774. Horses. Cattle. Alender, Joseph Brown, Thomas... Davis, Maurice... Davis, Jonathan... lvingston, John. McCormick, George... McGrew, Joseph McMillan, Joseph.... Note-Joseph MeGrew, grist and saw mill.
John McNitt, one negro. William McNitt, one
servant. James Potter, three servants. William Thompson, marked new settler.
The grist and saw mill is what is known as

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.

Jonas Bible, of Potter, lost a valuable horse one night last week.

left for Freeport, Illinois.

where he secured a job as teamster. Robert Bloom, of Potter, went to

Northampton, Mass., as a helper in the insane hospital. Andrew Gregg, teacher at Lemont, has

The I. O. O. F., No. 279, of Pine Grove Mills, intend erecting a hall on the

Harter Bros. have purchased 100 acres of fine timber land in Haines township, from Charles Wolfe.

Akron, O. During summer he will be only a few months old. in the western states.

J. C. F. Motz, the Woodward merstock of merchandise and retiring from county, and which has been admired by Alexander Miller has secured the con-

1766, was laid on the farm late Gen. instructor in the Civil Engineering De-

Will Bottorf, of Lemont, has gone to Philadelphia, to accept a position in a hardware store. He formerly was with Potter & Hoy, Bellefonte.

tion of Prof. J. H. Pletcher, in the Bap-

The annual convention of the Centre county Sabbath School Association will be held in the Methodist Episcopal church On the 5th of August, 1765, the land- at Milesburg, Tuesday, April 23, 1901. office was opened for settled lands only The officers of the association are Rev.

IN ADJOINING COUNTIES.

John Z. Lindemuth, a highly respected citizen, of Mill Hall, died last Friday

coming county, kept his money in a big and the selection of Creasy was without chest in the house. The other day he opposition. At the same session of the went to look at his savings and behold it | Committee strong resolutions were inwas gone. About \$1,000 was taken, troduced denouncing those democratic

Bratton township, Mifflin county, together adopted with an emphasis that showed with all the furniture and clothing, etc., that there is no room in the party for except an organ, sewing machine and a traitors. few minor articles, was totally destroyed by fire last Thursday night. The fire was so rapid that the family barely escaped with their lives.

According to the assessor's returns from the several wards in Tyrone borough, there are ninety-one cows owned by its residents, valued we presume, at about \$1,365. The taxable income received therefrom, would be a small pit- abdomen and one in the leg. The injur- kula is in a hospital and Yakot is in jail. tance to the damage inflicted in permit. ies are considered fatal. ting them to run at large.

A census bulletin on the area in square miles of the various states, showed that horses, which he will dispose of at pri-Lycoming is the largest county in Penn- vate sale. They will be kept here at the sylvania, the aera in miles being 1,240; sales stables. Tioga is second with 1,180 and Clearfield third with 1,141, while Bradford

is the smallest county with 130 square PUBLIC miles, and Montour comes next with 142. Last Monday night 8, Henry Wright, an aged farmer residing near Addison, Clinton county, discovered that his barn, A Brilliant Social Event on Friwas on fire. His daughter ran to release the stock and when she returned to the

ess on the floor, his skull crushed by a

heavy blow. His vest had been torn open and from an inside pocket a purse containing \$400 had been taken. It is stated that the search for oil in the Pine creek territory will be commenced again in a few weeks and a num-

wells will be drilled deeper in search this place, on Friday evening, the 19th. John Fishel left Lemont for Clearfield for the feeder that is supposed to exist It promises to be one of the leading somewhere in this section.

league will hold its annual session in St. of the state. The Commandery have John's English Lutheran church, Lock issued a liberal number of invitations to Haven, the second week in June. Dele. their friends and the assemblage will be their cradles. gations from the leagues in all the coun- a large one. The following is a brief ties of central Pennsylvania. numbering forecast of the programme for the even-that's blown in. over 100, will be in attendance. The ing. session will continue two days.

Mrs. Homer Southards, of Osceola, committed suicide last Thursday morning II, at her home that morning at an early hour, as usual, Mr. Southards and his hired man went out to the barn to J. F. Rearick, of Spring Mills, set a do the milking. On their return they Sober & Potter acetylene gas machine in were horrified to find that Mrs. Southhis residence, with lights in every room ands had shot herself through the head with a gun and was lying dead in a pool Samuel &. Rowe, of Centre Hall, is of blood. She was aged about 25 years,

Last week a giant red oak which has stood as a great sentinel in the lumber hundreds, was felled on the job of Samuel Mountain and Clarence Witherow on the Quay lands. It measured seven and one half feet across the stump and ent five logs which scaled 7,109 feet. Thus one by one, says the Public Spirit, these old forest land marks are vanishing and very shortly the last raft will go down the Susquehanna.

A distressing drowning accident occurred at Salona Friday afternoon. The There will be a concert given by the Knapp's saw mill, throwing stones into

GREASY ELECTED.

The Democratic State Committee met at Harrisburg, on Wednesday noon, and was well attended from all parts of the state. The principal business transacted was the election of a State Chairman to succeed Mr. Rilling, of Eric, who refused to accept a re-election to the position he has so ably filled the past year. There

Jesse Quigle, an aged farmer in Ly- risburg, made a similar announcement \$700 in gold and the balance in green- senators and representatives who aided the Quayites in all the infamous legisla-The house owned by J. M. Hurley, in tion at this session. The same were

Shooting Affray at St. Mary's.

-Benj. Gentzel will arrive in town on Monday with a car load of Kausas

Some republicans and a good many follows closely with 1,140. Philadelphia democrats will get to heaven.

day Evening. house she found her father lying sense-

WILL BE LARGELY ATTENDED

Constans Commandery No. 33 Knights Templar Will Entertain in the Armory-a Brief Outline of the Program for the Evening.

Much interest is manifested in the public ber of new wells will be drilled in the installation of officers of Constans Com-John and Win Love, of Tussevville, vicinity of Gaines. Some of the old mandery No. 33, Knights Templar, of social events of the season and attended The Central Pennsylvania Lutheran by representative citizens of this section

At 8 p. m. the Commandery, in full all Ill. winds too. uniform, will leave their hall in the Reynolds building and march to the Armory, often fair but false. led by the Coleville band. The installation exercises will proceed at once figuring up his receipts. conducted by Eminent Grand Senior Warden Knights Templar W. I. Flem- rough chap on her hands. ing and Past Eminent Commander W. F. Reeder. The elective officers to be installed are Harry Keller, Eminent Commander; W. Harrison Walker, hibition town is "Bar none." Generalissamo; and J. S. McCargar, Captain General. In addition to these deal depends upon the dressing. there are about a dozen appointive offices to be filled.

It is an unusal thing for the Knights for this purpose it was necessary to ed. secure a special dispensation from higher authorities of the order. After the in- fellow, she shouldn't make dates with stallation a reception will be held by the him. followed by refreshments. Fisk's orches- who shouldn't eat all of the bread he tra of Williamsport will be in attendance | kneads. and furnish music for exercises and the dancing.

In addition to those who will be in at- beanstalk. tendance from this place there will be a When you are boasting about the 2 year old son of Edward Powers wan- delegations of Kuights are expected stretching it. dered from the home to the big spring. from Lock Haven and Williamsport. It was seen by the men, who work at About twelve years ago the commandery dentist does not go to an art store for his the water. The men went after more ing of their new hall in the Reynolds The X rays are undoubtedly a great logs, and when they returned they were building, which was one of the most invention, but what we need more is a tist church at Blanchard on Saturday informed that the child was missing. A elaborate events in the history of the way to raise an X. was within the purchase line of 1758, Indications now point to another good its body was found in the stream about installation will exceed that of former search was instituted, and shortly after town, and the expectations are that this occasions in the completeness of all appointments and the entertainment of their friends. Constans Commadery has an active membership of about seventyfive and is in a flourishing condition. From this commandery have been established similar ones at Clearfield, Lock Haven and Hantingdon all of which are strong in membership.

Lifted Brain to Sever Nerve.

To relieve her intense suffering from were three candidates prominently men- neuralgia the "Hartley" operation was seal and deliver it to the proper official tioned for the place: Wm. T. Creasy, performed upon Miss Elizabeth Giles at with the remark: "There now! Never of Columbia county, better known as the Scranton private hospital by Dr. "Farmer Creasy" and the democratic Reed Burns. Dr. Burns first made a envelope, write in a date to the document leader in the House at Harrisburg for "trap door" incision in the left temple, and offer it to the congregation." serted an elavator, a piece of highly A strong delegation of prominent polished metal, and lifted up the brain, remarks: democrats from this section went down He then divided the nerves and severed to urge the selection of Senator Heinle, them just before they made their exit mother, with a home to take care of, whose name had been so favorably re- from the cranium. The nerves severed cannot engage in profitable work outside night after a brief illness, aged 76 years. ceived in an parts of the state, but upon their arrival there they were disappoint- upper and lower jaws. They do not domestic interests. If she attempts it Indiana Times: Mrs. Albert Wiggins ed to find that the Senator had decided control the movements of the jaws, howelther the machinery of the home itself, has 120 plymouth Rock hens that in the not to allow his name to be used in that ever. A number of city physicians and the wisest training of her child or chilmonths of January, February and March connection, as Colonel Guffey desired surgeons watched the operation. This dren, or her own mental growth or phylaid 3651/2 dozen eggs, in January 180 the selection of Creasy, and he was of remarkable operation has excited much sical strength will suffer. There are exdozen, February 1131/2 dozen and March the opinion that it was a wise selection. discussion among local medical men. ceptions, but superlatively clever women Mr. Hall, as soon as he arrived in Har- The woman withstood the operation suc- are rare-about as rare as superlatively

Disturbed a Wedding.

Steve Yakot was in a rage Saturday night when he stood out side a house in contracts for the grading and masonary the girl whose heart and hand he had double tracking of the Philadelphia and sought standing at the side of Andy Na- Eric railroad between Lock Haven and kula going through the marriage cere- Keating. The work will be divided into mony. As the words pronouncing them six sections. The work will be finished man and wife were being said Yakot by fall. hurled a rock through the window in an attempt to hit one or the other of the con-A young man named Simon Curry, tracting parties-whether the girl, who was shot Friday night by a woman had jilted him, or the man, who had won tion the burning of the Hunter barn, at took effect, three striking Curry in the the shuffle Nakula was shot twice. Fa. exact origin of the fire is not known.

Tried to Burn a Church.

An incendiary attempt was made to destroy the Beaver Memorial church at Lewisburg, Thursday night. Flames were seen issuing from the chapel in the rear. They were soon extinguished. A quantity of material saturated with oil had been set on fire.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

INSTALLATION | Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

> A CENTURY'S PROGRESS. One hundred years ago to-day, With wilderness here,

With powder in his gun the man Went out and got the deer. But now the thing is somewhat changed. And on another plan ;

Goes out and gets the man. In the spring the young man's fancy Lightly turns to thoughts of cash, And his overcoat goes hocking.

With powder on her cheeks the deer

Which, as yet, is rather rash The bloomers are out. Out of town-the country. A sole survivor-one old shoe.

Printed in colors-kisses that produce blushes. Found in the rocky regions-babes in

Raised on the bottle-the inscription Chicago is a windy city, and they are

The weather man's predictions are

A bar-gain counter-the saloonkeeper Even a nice, refined girl may have a

Though he gets full, we look up to

him-the man in the moon. The rule for public houses in a Pro-

A salad is like a woman. A grea There's one cake no baker should be

without, and that's a cake of soap. It's possible to live with one lung, and Templar to have public installation and nothing unusual to see people half-heart-

When a girl doesn't care a fig for a

newly installed officers which will be The baker is about the only person

Listen to Nature's voices: The trees whisper, the mountains peak and the

special train from Altoona, and large beight of a rubber plant, there's no use

She-"Don't you dare kiss me. If you do I'll call mamma. He-"What! Does the old lady want to be kissed, too?"

Merely Suggested.

For the benefit of some preachers who do not know when their usefulness has gone by, we suggest the following method of determining their time for disappearing:

One of the most prominent Baptist preachers in the vicinity of New York has made it a practice in all pastorates to write his resignation within a week ask me for my resignation. Whenever

Sound Doctrine. An exchange has the following sound

clever men.

Contracts For Double Track.

The Pennsylvania Railroad awarded Johnstown and through a window saw work in connection with the proposed

Barn and Catttle Burned:

named Hattie Knowlton. Curry had her, is not known. An hour later, when Hunters Park, as we went to press; the been ordered away from a house in which the bridegroom learned that it was Ya. following are further particulars: Large the woman was stopping, but refused to kot who threw the stone through the quantity of hay and grain, four cows and go. Five shots were fired, four of which window, he grappled with him, and in five head of young cattle were lost. The

Railroad Improvements.

The New York Central railroad has purchased laud in the Fourth ward of Clearfield; will begin at once increasing the yard capacity, to accommodate 3,000 cars, making the Clearfield yards the largest in Central Pennsylvania.

"Are you a buffalo ?" "No, and you can't make a monkey of me, either."