

The Centre Democrat.

AS. R. KURTZ, Proprietor.

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OUR HISTORICAL REVIEW

Thrilling Adventures as An Indian Captive

CLEVER PLAN TO ESCAPE

That Was Successful—Young Lady Carried as a Prisoner to Montreal, Canada—Early Residents of Potter Township.

XXVIII.

The following interesting narrative of incidents, was written by a daughter of a revolutionary soldier, familiar with the facts:

"James Thompson lived, at the commencement of the revolutionary war, on a beautiful farm, near Spruce run, in White Deer township. On a contiguous farm lived a family named Young. One morning in March they were surprised by five Indians, who took Thompson and Margaret Young prisoners. Thompson was a very active young man, and determined to rescue Miss Young, and make his own escape. On the second night of their captivity, while the Indians were asleep, each with his rifle, tomahawk, and scalping-knife wrapped, with himself, in his blanket—Thompson found a stone weighing about two pounds, and kneeling down beside the nearest Indian, with his left hand he felt for his temple—his intention being to kill one, and having secured his tomahawk, he thought he could despatch the rest successively as they arose. The darkness of the night, however, frustrated his plan; for, not seeing, he did no serious injury. The Indian bounded up with a fierce yell, which awoke the others, and springing on the young man—who had thrown his stone as far from him as he possibly could—would have put an end to his existence, had not the rest interfered and secured Thompson. The Indian immediately accused him of endeavoring to kill him—while he signified that he had only struck him with his fist—and nothing appearing to induce them to doubt his word, they were highly amused at the idea of an Indian making so terrible an outcry at any stroke a pale-face could inflict with his naked hand. He, however, although he had not an ocular, had certainly a very feeling demonstration that something weightier than a hand had been used—but was shamed into silence by the laugh raised at his expense. Our prisoners were now taken up the Susquehanna, crossed the river in a canoe, and proceeded up Loyal Sock creek. For five nights he was laid upon his back, with his arms extended and tied to stakes. On the seventh night, near the mouth of Towanda creek, the Indians directed Thompson and his companion, as usual, to kindle a fire for themselves, while they built another. By this means he had an opportunity of communicating to her his intention of leaving the company that very evening. She advised him to go without her. He expressed great unwillingness; but she overruled his objections, declaring that even did she now escape, she would not be able to reach home. Accordingly, in gathering the dry sticks which were strewn round, he went further from the circle, throwing each stick, as he found it, towards the fire, and then wandering slowly, though not unconsciously still further for the next, until he had gone as far as he thought he could without exciting suspicion; then he precipitately fled. They were soon in pursuit; but were unable to overtake him; and he ran in such a quick, zigzag manner, that they could not aim straight enough to shoot him.

He was obliged to travel principally at night; and in going down Loyal Sock creek, he frequently came upon Indian encampments, when he had either to wade the stream, or cross the slippery mountains, to avoid them. Sometimes he came to places where they had encamped. The bones of deer, &c., which he found at these places, he broke open, and swallowed the marrow. This, with the few roots he could find, was all the food he was able to procure. Once, when almost overcome with fatigue and loss of sleep, he thought of getting into a hollow tree to rest; but this would not do, for where he could get in a wild animal might also get, although naturally possessed of great courage, he did not like to be attacked in this manner, where he had no means of defence. In this way he reached the Susquehanna, where he found the canoe as they had left it. He entered it, and descended the river; but fatigue, and want of nourishment and rest, had so overcome him, that when he reached Fort Freeland—a short distance above where Milton now stands—he was unable to rise. He lay in the canoe until discovered by the inhabitants, who took him ashore; and by careful treatment he was restored to health. He afterwards received a pension from the

United States, and died about the year 1838, in the 95th year of his age.

The Indians, meantime pursued their course, taking Miss Young with them, to the neighborhood of Montreal, in Canada. She had frequently understood them to lament the loss of Thompson. As he was a fine active young man, they were keeping him as a subject upon which to exercise their cruelty. Miss Young was given to an old squaw, who wished to make her work sufficient to maintain them both; but an old colored man advised her to work as little as possible—and what she must do, she should do as badly as she could; "for," said he, "if you work well, she will keep you for a slave,—but be lazy, and do your work wrong, and she will get tired of you, and sell you to the whites."—Poor young girl! away from her home and her friends, she was grateful for the advice which even an old colored man gave. She acted her part well; for when the corn was ready for hoeing, she would cut up the corn, and neatly dress some weed in its stead. The old squaw thought she was too stupid ever to learn—for, notwithstanding all the pains she had taken to teach her, she was still as awkward and ignorant as ever; and thinking her a useless burden, she sent her to Montreal, according to her wish, and sold her. Her purchaser was a man of some distinction, of the name of Young; and when he discovered her name, he began to trace relationship, and found they actually were cousins. This was a happy discovery. She lived almost as contentedly, in her cousin's family, as in her father's house. Some time after the conclusion of the war, she became very anxious to visit her friends in the United States. She came home, where she sickened and died soon after."

In the fall of 1776 inhabitants of Potter township by petition made application to the government "for arms and ammunition for themselves, and for powder and lead for the Indians, to enable them to get a living, so that they would not go to the enemy for a supply." The following inhabitants of Potter put their names to the petition:

Allender, Joseph.	Huston, John.
Arthur, Richard.	Honston, William.
Arthur, Thomas.	Livingston, David.
Bell, Henry.	Livingston, Daniel.
Brogie, Fidler.	Livingston, John.
Burt, Thomas.	Long, Daniel.
Caldwell, Charles.	Long, Michael.
Carr, Thomas.	McCormick, George.
Conley, Tim.	McCormick, John.
Cool, Samuel.	McCormick, Robert.
Davis, Jonathan.	McCormick, Samuel.
Davies, Maurice.	McDowell, James.
Hall, John.	McGrew, Joseph.
Harper, Adam.	McMillen, John.
Hubler, Jacob.	McMillen, Thomas.
Hud, John.	McVickar, Duncan.
Hugh, John.	Miles, Enos.
Miles, John.	Stover, Jacob.
Moore, Hugh.	Thompson, Isaiah.
Murphy, Michael.	Thompson, Thomas.
Orr, John.	Thompson, William, Sr.
Peterson, Garret.	Thompson, William, Jr.
Reed, John.	Watson, John.
Reynolds, Adam.	Wileott, John.
Richard, Joseph.	Wilson, Charles.
Sankey, Richard.	Wilson, William.
Stover, Adam.	Woods, George.

General Store Burned.

The general store of William Shaffer, at Nittany in Nittany Valley was destroyed by fire about 2 o'clock Sunday morning. The supposition is that the store was broken into by robbers who fired the building to conceal the burglary. The intimation the people in the vicinity had that the building was on fire was when the oil tank in the store exploded with a terrific report awakening everybody from their slumber. The flames had spread so rapidly that none of the contents of the building could be removed, and the stock is a total loss. The building was owned by C. C. and C. I. Rogers. The loss is estimated at between \$2,000 and \$3,000, which is partly covered by insurance.

The store had been robbed several times in the past few years. The building was so far from any other that there was no difficulty in preventing the flames from spreading.

Fatality at Lock Haven.

William Weis, aged about twenty years and residing near Loganton, met a tragic death while aboard Erie Mail on the Pennsylvania railroad near Lock Haven on Sunday morning. With a party of friends he boarded the train at Antes Fort, where he was employed by Green & Spigelmyer, and all remained on the rear until the conductor informed them that it was against the rules. All immediately started to enter the car and had gotten safely inside with the exception of young Weis, when the train gave a sudden jolt in rounding a curve and he was thrown off.

The train was immediately stopped and the unfortunate young man taken aboard. He was badly bruised and cut and it was decided to remove him immediately to the hospital at Lock Haven, but before the train had reached that point his injuries had proven fatal.

It's enough to make a man pale to be accused of conducting a bucket shop.

PENNSYLVANIA'S COAL OUTPUT

Produces More Than Any Other Section.

IMPORTANT COAL STATISTICS

Issued by the U. G. Geological Survey—Our State Produces More Than Half the Country's Output—Number employed

The United States Geological Survey has issued an interesting bulletin on the production of coal in 1900. In this report Pennsylvania, of course, occupies first place. The most important of the coal fields of the United States are those in the Appalachian region extending from Pennsylvania on the north to Alabama on the south. In 1900 the percentage of the total contributed by this field was 67.1. Next in importance are the central coal fields, embracing the producing areas in Illinois, Indiana and Western Kentucky. This region produced 16.6 per cent. of the total coal output in 1900, and the Western fields 8.3 per cent. The latter field includes Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Indian Territory, Arkansas and Texas. The States contained in the Rocky Mountain regions produced 6.3 per cent.

The aggregate production of anthracite and bituminous coal in 1900 was 240,235,965 long tons, with a value of \$305,974,114, being an increase over the preceding year of 13,682,401 long tons and \$49,896,680 in value. In that year Pennsylvania produced in anthracite coal 51,221,353 long tons, valued at \$85,757,851, against 53,944,347 long tons valued at \$88,142,130 in 1899. This decrease was due entirely to labor troubles in 1900.

The number of men employed in the mines in the United States in 1900 was 477,830, who made an average of 212 working days, as compared with 410,635 men who made an average of 214 days in 1899. The amount of coal made into coke at the mines in 1900 was 27,238,340 tons. The aggregate of bituminous coal in 1900 was 211,656,356 short tons, valued at \$220,216,263, as compared with 193,321,937 short tons valued at \$167,934,304 in 1899. The advance in value was something unprecedented in the history of coal mining in the United States, the average price per ton having risen from 87 cents in 1899 to \$1.04 in 1900.

In point of production in both anthracite and bituminous Pennsylvania ranks first, with an output of 57,367,915 short tons of anthracite, and 79,842,326 short tons of bituminous, Illinois ranks second; West Virginia, third; Ohio, fourth; Alabama, fifth; Indiana, sixth; Colorado, seventh, and so on down the line to Idaho, which ranks twenty-eight. The report shows that there has been much progress in the development of the use of undercutting machines for the mining of bituminous coal. Over one-fourth the total amount mined in 1900 was under-cut by the use of machines. The total number of men idle because of strikes in the bituminous mines of the United States in 1900 was 31,980; the total number of days lost was 1,378,102, or an average of 43 days per man. The time lost in the Anthracite region of Pennsylvania was the equivalent of nearly twenty per cent. of the time made. The total production of coal in the world in 1900 is given as 840,792,695, tons, of which the United States produced thirty-two per cent. or almost one-third.

POINTS OF INTERESTS.

When the members of company B, N. G. P., of this place, go into camp near Somerset, Pa., this week, we would call their attention to two points of interest in that locality. At the depot, Somerset, Pa., stands a large brick 3-story building that for years has been manufacturing oleomargarine in open violation and defiance of explicit state laws. This institution John Hamilton, our present Secretary of Agriculture, should have suppressed long ago; but he did not. Last week the U. S. officials seized the property for violating the pure food laws.

Perhaps the finest private residence in Somerset is that of Abner McKinley, Esq., brother of President McKinley. It is said that four years ago he was an obscure attorney, indebted to local merchants and credit low. To day Abner is rated at no less than a million and has money to throw at the birds. How did it happen—don't know. When the war with Spain broke out it was openly declared that the War Department at Washington gave fat contracts for supplies to a firm in New York City in which Abner, Bills brother, was an interested member. How did it happen—can't you guess?

The trouble with most girls is that they don't believe a fellow is really in love unless he acts foolishly.

Beauty is only skin deep, and a lot of people are pretty thin-skinned at that.

LOST ON THE MOUNTAIN.

Samuel Emerick, of Rote, Clinton Co. was lost in the mountain near that place. Mr. Emerick left Rote Monday morning to pick huckleberries on the mountains near that place. A party of Rote people who were also on the mountains after berries, met Mr. Emerick, but he soon separated from them and started in an opposite direction. That was the last seen of him. The supposition is that he lost his bearings in the woods and cannot find his way out or else something serious may have happened to him. Tuesday morning a searching party of fourteen men went to the mountains for some trace of him. Mr. Emerick is about 65 years old.

LATER.—Mr. Emerick returned to his home about four o'clock Tuesday afternoon.

FOUR WOMEN LOST.

Monday morning Mrs. Rachel Swartzwood, Mrs. Swartz and ten-year old daughter, and Miss Simcox, left their homes in Sugar valley, opposite Loganton, for berries. They tramped the mountain all day and towards evening learned they had lost the way. They kept on moving until finally they sank exhausted along a creek at a point near the road.

That evening Mr. Swartz became alarmed at the prolonged absence of the party and in company with Samuel Glantz started with a dog and lighted lanterns on a search. They went on until they struck White Deer creek, yelling as they went and sending the dog into the bushes to look for the missing women. About 3 o'clock Tuesday morning they heard the women's weak cries. Proceeding in the direction of the sound they found the four ladies huddled together on the ground, in a weakened condition. The two men quickly gave the half famished women something to eat and shortly after they all started for home.

BABY PLAYED WITH BLACK SNAKE.

The Philadelphia Inquirer of Monday morning is responsible for the following thrilling snake story.

Mrs. C. P. Russel, of Boggs township, Centre county, is dangerously ill with nervous prostration, the result of a terrific encounter with a large black snake. The screams of a little four-year old grand-daughter, who had been left playing with the baby brother in the kitchen brought Mrs. Russel and her aged husband to the scene and there they beheld a large black snake coiled up on a rug beside the children. When the reptile stuck out its tongue the baby, in its playful manner, would try and catch it. As the aged couple stood horror-stricken at the sight the snake continued to draw closer to the children. With a scream Mrs. Russel sprang to the rescue, seized the children and ran into the yard, where the lady was overcome and fell unconscious to the ground.

In the kitchen Mr. Russel, a feeble, old man, had a terrible battle for his life. The snake raced him round and round the room. "The struggle," says Mr. Russel, "seemed an age, although it lasted but a short time." Fortunately the snake received a blow on its head that caused it to flee into the sitting room, where it was killed by some of the other members of the family. On going out into the yard after the encounter they found Mrs. Russel still unconscious and the children sobbing over her prostrate form.

A LARGE YIELD.

Last week we asked for reports from farmers as to yields of wheat that averaged over 25 bushels to the acre. The first reply comes from Union county, and by a former resident of Haines township, as follows:

31 BUSHELS PER ACRE.

Hartleton, Pa., 8-13, 1901.
DEAR EDITOR:—In last week's Democrat I noticed a request for wheat reports from Centre county farmers. I am not a Centre county farmer, but am a Hartley township, Union county farmer and decided to give a brief report from our farm, bought five years ago at \$21.00 per acre:
The soil is gravel, yield 31 bushels per acre—machine measure. Commercial fertilizer, 200 lbs. per acre; barnyard manure, four loads per acre; quality of wheat, "Turkey Amber;" sowed per acre, 7 bushels; sowed from the 15th to the 20th of September.

The land was all oats stubble, plowed early part of August and after being thoroughly packed the surface was well prepared for the drill.

Respectfully,

W. H. HARTER.

Crop returns are interesting to most of our readers and we hope that any farmer who was fortunate enough to have a yield of 25 bushels of wheat to the acre will be thoughtful enough to report same and tell how he did it. Many farmers have not threshed their crops but there should be some in the county able to come up to that limit.

It doesn't seem right—left-handedness.

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.

Mr. Walter Buck, of Millheim, the well known tailor has opened a tailor shop in Howard.

M. M. Motter has moved from Gregg twp., to Carroll, Clinton county, where he has work on a lumber operation.

Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Walker and family visited at the home of Jas. F. Weaver and family over Sunday, at Milesburg.

The Centre county Pomona grange will meet in the hall of Washington grange, at State College, on Friday, August 16th.

Mr. John D. Dannelly and wife, of Wadsworth, Ohio, are visiting friends at Pine Grove. Is is twenty years since he left for Ohio.

Miss Mary V. Rhone, of Centre Hall' has been appointed a stenographer and typewriter at headquarters of the democratic state committee.

Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Brumgard, of Rebersburg, were elected by the board of directors to manage the Odd Fellows' Orphans' home, near Sunbury.

Examinations for admission to the Pennsylvania State College will be held at the College on September 10th and 11th. The fall term will open on the 12th.

Early apples are selling at 15 cents per peck, but are not extra fine. The yield in this county, as heretofore noted in the Democrat, will not be over a third of a crop.

The festival of the Zion Ev. church will be held at the grange hall, on Saturday evening, 17. All kinds of refreshments, and music by the band. All invited.

Homer Harry, the Rebersburg man who had his spine fractured in the lumber woods of Potter county several months ago, has recovered sufficiently to be able to take a drive.

The Grange Encampment and Exhibition committee is completing plans to make the 28th annual gathering, September 14 to 20, more interesting than any held heretofore.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Elder, of Pine Grove Mills, are mourning the death of their bright little son Albert. The funeral took place Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. Interment in Pine Grove cemetery.

The members of the Sprucetown M. E. church will hold a festival on the lawn of the church on August 30th and 31st, afternoon and evening. First class refreshments will be served. All are cordially invited.

State College and Lemont, were visited by a terrible hail storm Friday afternoon about 5 o'clock. In both places many panes of glass were broken and the corn fields in the track of the storm suffered great damage.

Gatesburg will have a big picnic on Saturday, August 24. We do not know what arrangements are made to entertain, but as the people of that section of the county never do things by halves all who attend may expect a good time.

The annual picnic of St Mary's Catholic church at Snow Shoe, will be held on Saturday, August 24th. The arrangement will be under the direction of the Ancient Order of Hibernians. The Bellefonte orchestra is to furnish the music for dancing.

James C. Condo, the good humored and enterprising buggy maker of Penn Hall, transacted business in Loganton on Saturday. He brought with him a new buggy for lumberman Thomas R. Harter and a fancy new carriage for landlord Harry T. Cole.

Five car loads of colored people, from Williamsport, came over the Beech Creek railroad and went to Hecla park, where they spent last Friday, for a picnic. The day before over two car loads of colored persons from Bellefonte, had a pleasant time picnicking at Hecla.

At the Ward home in Pine Grove there was a family gathering. Among those who enjoyed the festivities are Miss Lizzie ward, of Shamokin, Arthur and Harold Ward and Francis Thomas, of Bellefonte, Annie and Jane Ward, of Baileyville, Mrs. Maggie Meek, of Altoona, and Mrs. Sarah Gardner, of Rock Springs.

A Merrill Allison, son of Archibald Allison, of Spring Mills, was recently elected principal of the public schools at Alexandria, Pa. He graduated the past year from Bucknell college, Lewisburg.

Continued on page 4.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

HE DOUBLED IT.

Old Muggleton's five daughters were
The worry of his life;
He thought an old maid each would be
Not one of them a wife.

He found it cost a lot of cash
To keep five girls at home,
And no young men rolled up to ask
The dears with them to roam.

And so he sat his wife to work
And freely spent his pelf
In trying might and main to get
His darlings off the shelf.
And he succeeded; suitors came,
And fell into the trap;
For one by one each daughter caught
Some poor unlucky chap.

Still Muggleton is sorry, and
All through the day doth weep;
Instead of just five girls, he has
Ten people now to keep.

An eye-sore—the pig sty.

Many a quarryman's hopes have been blasted.

A convenience that counts—the cash register.

The girl who chews gum is not the girl to choose.

The drill is what augurs the success of a soldier.

Physical culture is only another name for hard work.

The right side of a deal in stocks is always the inside.

Most so called flying machines are soar disappointments.

Men have been telling fish stories ever since the days of Jonah.

There's a profit in soda water, though it's never free of charge.

Some people don't get religion until they lose everything else.

The grass widow in a lawn dress shouldn't neglect her horse.

Who was it took the advice to whip-poor-will? Why, katy-did.

Aristocratic blue blood is one of the things that run in the family.

The optician may not be an especially good judge of stage spectacles.

Perhaps the road to ruin is easy to travel because it is all down hill.

The base ball pitcher also seems to realize that there is beauty in curves.

Does "Faint heart never win fair lady" apply to the fellow who is after a dark girl?

No matter how bad music may be it never comes out of the small end of the horn.

A woman may have a pitcher for a husband, but she doesn't want a child to caucer.

A man may own a watch that is a good timekeeper and yet he may not have a good time.

OAK GROVE SHOPS.

Will be Large and Handsomely Designed Buildings.

The Oak Grove railroad shops being erected west of Jersey Shore by the New York Central R. R. shops, will not only be the largest and most substantial in the country, but that they will also be handsome buildings from an architectural point of view. All the shops will be of the same style of architecture; will be laid out on a systematic plan; and some of them will be only one story in height and some two stories in height. The plans provided that the locomotive shop shall be the first building erected. It will be two stories in height; it will be gigantic in size, and its entrance will be extremely artistic.

East of the locomotive shop will be a mammoth transfer table. East of this table will be another large building, which will contain the wheel, boiler, upholder and several other smaller shops. This structure will not be built until the second year, or in 1902.

To the west of the locomotive building will be the immense power house, which will have very high chimneys. This building is also contracted for 1902.

The long blacksmith shop will be on a plot nearer Pine Creek than any of the other buildings.

The large round house will be situated northwest of the other buildings.

All these shops with their annexes and accessories, will be made as pretty a town as any in the United States.

He's Not Afraid of Snakes.

Antonio Adabio, foreman of a gang of Italian track hands on the New York Central railroad at Jersey Shore, has no fear of rattlesnakes. Their bites have no more effect upon him than those of mosquitoes. Last fall Adabio stepped on a snake which sunk its fangs into the calf of his leg. The bite did not swell a particle, nor in any way affect the Italian. Yesterday morning while at work near Jersey Shore Adabio's men came upon a den of snakes. The charmed foreman killed eleven of them, two of which buried their fangs into his legs repeatedly. Blood filled the wounds, but Adabio refused to accept medical aid and was feeling as well as usual today.