

# The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KU Proprietor.

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## OUR HISTORY REVIEW

### Sketch of Some of the Early Settlers

#### PIONEERS OF PROMINENCE

Men who Founded Prosperous Iron Industries—Some Became Eminent in Statecraft—Early Settlers in Potter Township.

#### CHAPTER XXXXII.

The resting places of the Indians for their dead were either mounds of earth or piles of stones thrown together, which was done by the old men and decrepit old women. These mounds are frequently discovered at the present time, and on being searched the remains of the dead are found along with vessels made by their own hands, also arrows, etc.

Of the early settlers we learn that Andrew Boggs built his cabin on the left bank of Bald Eagle creek, near an Indian village on the flat where Milesburg now stands, in 1768. Daniel and Jonas Davis, Hollanders, a few years after settled a short distance down the creek, and a block house was erected at the Davis cabin where soldiers were stationed in 1777.

Wm. Lamb located on Spring creek in the gap just below Bellefonte about the same time. Another early settler in Bald Eagle valley was Richard Malone. Mr. Culbertson was also an early settler in the valley in the days of the revolutionary war. Culbertson was killed by the Indians. James Potter came into Bald Eagle valley about 1768-9. Of this noted and distinguished settler and his discovery of Penn's valley, the Centre Democrat gave an extended account in a previous chapter. Other settlers previous to the revolution, were John Hall, John Livingston and Morris Davis.

One of the prominent early settlers was General Philip Benner, who located in Spring township in 1792 and remained in the county until his death in 1833. He served in the revolutionary war under General Wayne—"Mad Anthony" who was a relative. In 1790 he became the owner of the well known Rock Furnace, and erected one of the first forges in the county and later added another forge and rolling mill. He found a market for his iron and nails in Pittsburg, and used the crude means of transportation of those days, pack mules, etc. Andrew Gregg, born at Carlisle in June 1755, was another early settler who gained prominence and was the ancestor of the Greggs now in the county. He married a daughter of General Potter, and in 1784 he moved to Penn's valley. He located near Potter's Old Fort, cleared the native forest about him and went to farming until 1814 when he moved to Bellefonte. He served in congress sixteen years, being first elected in 1790. In 1807 he was chosen a U. S. Senator from Pennsylvania, and in 1820 he was appointed Secretary of the Commonwealth by Governor Heister. He was faithful in all the responsible positions he filled and was influential in the days when good men were the rule and when purity and integrity were a matter of course in men chosen to serve the public.

The first Furnace in our county was built by Colonel John Patton. The Colonel was a Major in Col. Samuel Miles' regiment, and was in the battle of Long Island. He was commander of the 9th Penn's Reg. in 1776. He died in 1902, and had become the owner of large tracts of Centre county lands. Colonel Samuel Miles, founder of Milesburg, performed long, active and important service in the Revolutionary war, and aided in the erection of Fort Augusta, (now Sunbury), in July. Colonel Miles' Journal contains the following experience:

"We marched up the west side of the Susquehanna until we came opposite where the town of Sunbury now stands, where we crossed in bateaux, and I had the honor of being the first man who put his foot on shore at landing. In building the fort, Captain Levi Trump and myself had charge of the workmen; and after it was finished, our battalion remained there in garrison till 1758. In the summer of 1757, I was nearly taken prisoner by the Indians. At about one-half mile distant from the fort stood a large tree that bore excellent plums, on an open piece of ground, near what is now called the Bloody Spring. Lieut. Samuel Atlee and myself took a walk to this tree to gather plums. While we were there a party of Indians lay a short distance from us, concealed in the thicket, and had nearly got between us and the fort, when a soldier belonging to the bullock guard, not far from us, came to the spring to drink. The Indians were thereby in danger of being discovered; and in consequence, fired at and killed the soldier, by which means we got off, and returned to the fort in much less time than we were in coming out."

Colonel Miles was largely engaged in the iron business in this county, and be-

came wealthy. What was later known as Linn & McCoy's works, on Spring creek, was erected by Colonel Miles. He did much for the growth and prosperity of Milesburg, the town which he founded.

Two of General Potter's sons attained prominence. One became a General and another, James, Jr., succeeded his father as deputy surveyor, for district No. 6.

Another Revolutionary patriot, Colonel James Holt, in 1782 settled in Bald Eagle valley, where Curtin's works now stand, J. H. and William Holt, well known and representative citizens of our county, are grandsons of the above named, and were among the first to settle in the Snow Shoe section of this county. J. Harbison Holt is still living, and was elected a member of the Legislature, 1889-92. He was a large lumber operator and had interests in soft coal lands in the Snow Shoe region. He is an occasional visitor to Bellefonte, where many friends are pleased to take his hand at all times.

Wm. Holt lost his life in the latter part of the summer of 1878, by an accident on the Snow Shoe railroad. The train on which he was traveling went through a high trestle on the mountain near Snow Shoe, by which he sustained injuries from which he died a few hours thereafter.

In a previous chapter we gave the names of residents in Potter township in 1774; the following names are additional residents in 1778:

Name	Ac	Impd	HR	Clt's
Arthur, Thachas	100	25	2	2
Hall, John	100	7	2	2
Harper, Adam, Sr.	100	7	2	2
Harper, Adam, Jr.	100	7	2	2
Huber, Jacob	100	7	2	2
Hughes, John	100	7	2	2
Huston, John	100	7	2	2
Kasweller, George	200	8	4	4
King, William	100	6	4	2
Long, Daniel	200	10	1	1
McCauslin, James	50	1	1	1
McConnell, Robert	50	4	2	2
McCormick, Robert	10	0	2	1
McGrew, Robert	20	2	2	2
McMillan, John	100	40	1	1
McVieker, Duncan	100	1	1	1
Miles, Andrew	100	6	1	2
Miles, Enos	100	6	1	2
Miles, Jas (and 1 slave)	50	3	2	2
Miles, Richard	100	6	1	1
Peters, Garret	100	1	1	1
Platt, Abraham	35	8	1	1
Reynolds, Adam	50	5	1	1
Richardson, Joseph	50	5	1	1
Robinson, Anthony	100	2	1	1
Stewart, Samuel	50	15	1	1
Stover, Jacob, Sr.	200	6	2	1
Stover, Jacob, Jr.	200	6	2	1
Thompson, Thomas	100	20	2	1
Wilson, John	100	20	2	1
Wilson, William	100	20	2	1
Woods, George	70	10	1	2

**SINGLE MEN.**  
Evans, Benjamin  
Long, Paul  
McMillan, Thomas  
Milligan, William  
Mack, Conrad  
Reynolds, Adam  
McCauslin, John  
Stover, Adam  
McCormick, John  
Stover, John  
McCormick, Samuel

The names of Samuel Hoy and of the McNitts, with Joseph McMullen, disappear from this assessment. In 1778, John Watson was constable of Potter; John McConnell and Jacob Stover, supervisors; Joseph Alexander and Adam Harper, overseers of the poor. After this year there is no record of township officers until 1785.

#### A NEW ENTERPRISE.

We have heard of hatching chickens and all that, but now the capitalists of Pleasant Gap have even gone farther than that and propose to make chickens by machinery. To do this a four-story building will be erected on Wm. Noll's lot; on the fourth floor will be located the incubators where the eggs will be subjected to a heat of 90 degrees. After the chickens have been hatched they will then be conveyed to the next floor where the heat will not be so great, and young "peeps" will be fed the lighter grains. On this floor they will remain a period of two weeks when they will be removed to the next floor where the patent stuffing machinery will be located and in a few weeks the chickens will be stuffed to their full capacity and be ready for the market. However, to furnish them already dressed, they propose to keep a lot of hands at work on the lower floor picking and dressing them ready for the market.

To complete this work it requires but six weeks and the chickens will then weigh from six to eight pounds, and it is claimed that the machine made poultry is much better than the old barn yard product and such things as roosters will not be known in the business.

Those interested in this enterprise desire their names withheld from the public at this time, but once the establishment is fully under way we will then give our readers a full description of the plant.

#### Pig Swallowed His Roll of Bills.

Wilson Jackson, of Pulaski township, near Sharon, Pa., sold a piece of land for \$300. He put the roll of bills in his pocket and went out to feed the hogs. The money dropped in a trough and a big pig ate it, but it was, however, his last meal. The pig dressed 400 pounds without the money.

## WONDERS OF ARIZONA

### A Trip to "Bad Man's Hunting Ground"

#### THE LAND OF VOLCANOES

##### A Valley Filled With Craters that Emit Hot Lava, Lurid Flames and Deadly Vapors—Animal and Vegetable Life Extinct

In former issues we published some interesting articles from the pen of Col. D. S. Dunham, of Pasadena, Cal., formerly of this place. He has sent us another interesting article on the "Land of Volcanoes in Arizona," which is of interest for its vivid description of a weird section of our country:

From hell to Arizona is but 6 hours ride by the cars. It seems that nature has reserved that section of the country for the purpose of demonstrating some of his "high jinks." To reach this place it is necessary to go down the Colorado river some 27 miles from where the South Pacific railroad crosses it and then go eastward across the most desolate, greenless region that ever human eyes looked upon. The Arizona Indians call the country "Bad Man's Hunting Ground." Not a single Indian in the southwest can be induced to visit that region, they believe that land of volcanoes to be next door to hell itself. There are hundreds of legends among the Indians about the horrible spirits of dead Indians that in ages past, that came from among the volcanoes and wander about there in the sultry atmosphere waiting an opportunity to wreak vengeance on some good Indian.

The air for miles around the valley of volcanoes is heavy with foul fumes when one has gone into the midst of the volcanoes the odors are not only abominable but very dangerous to any animal life. Several years ago Professor Smedley, of Ontario College, fitted up an apparatus whereby he could carry a rubber bag full of pure air, while he was exploring among the liveliest of the volcanoes. In some way his device did not work, and when he had gone but two hundred yards into the valley he was seen to fall by his companions, who rushed in to his rescue. As it was, he was the whole party for a week or more from the effects of inhaling the fumes.

The first sight of the land of volcanoes is one never to be forgotten. It reminds one of the description of hell, given by an old fashioned Methodist minister at a revival meeting in my boyhood days. The feeling, as one gazes over an area of thirty miles, dotted everywhere literally by thousands of hummocks and mounds and blue smoke circling up from countless numbers of these and flames and particles of molten lava from others is, that here indeed is a literal inferno on earth. The mounds, or volcanoes, are of all sizes, from that of a hoghead to an eminence some 150 or 200 feet high. The majority of them are about 15 feet high and 30 feet in circumference at the greatest point. Most of these little volcanoes are active, and when not spitting forth vapors and lurid flames, are boiling and steaming within, very much as a steam engine about to raise its safety valve. The noise of several thousand volcanoes seething, grumbling and bubbling is not an unusual occurrence, and it fills the average visitor in the land of them with indescribable sensations.

The land of the volcanoes is about 30 miles in length and from 15 to 20 miles in width. It lies one third of a mile north of the line dividing the U. S. and Mexico, and engineers have ascertained that the territory is about three hundred feet below the level of sea. In this rock hewn basin are active and dead volcanoes, spouting geysers, boiling springs, a lake of some black, sticky substance resembling ink, craters that blow out only dry ashes, others that vomit forth stones and gravel, and still others that belch liquid and blazing streams of mud. Strangely in contrast with this ocean of fire and destruction, there are numerous springs of cold water, and the strangest thing about it is that the springs of cold water are often found in close proximity to the hot springs, separated from them by only a few yards. This is a land that has never been traversed. Human beings have tried it, but they never return to tell of their discoveries.

There is not a living object, either animal or vegetable, in this land. It is a desolate waste of inanimate mineral objects. The volcanoes are all of a conical shape. Each has the same distinguishing characteristic—a crater. Some are dead, their fires having been extinct for ages, and many of these are nearly filled with ashes or solid lava which have cooled. One of these extinct craters, near the edge of the basin, is on a mound whose apex is about 20 feet above the surrounding level. It is one of the largest in that region and its base covers two or more acres. The crater is fully 70 feet across, and is filled with water so clear that one can see the sides of the crater many feet below the surface; but farther out this little elevated lake is practically bottomless, as a line with a sinker attached sank its length, 100 feet, and did not touch bottom. Not even a bug or mosquito has ever been seen in this valley of death. As for vegetation of any kind, there is none. Even the cactus, that friend of the desert, cannot find rest here. Around the springs of cold water not even a blade of grass or tuft of moss finds life.

A very interesting object in this land is a huge volcano that is on the outskirts of the valley proper. It is 50 feet high, and has a circumference of 800 feet at its base. It is an active volcano, and is the largest elevation in sight. A circuit clear around the basin has failed to find its equal in size. It is an accommodating monster. It has regular periods of unrest, and when it wants to vomit fire it

gives notice of its intentions by a peculiar roar, before which all other sounds become stilled in comparison. If one should chance to stand on the edge of the crater and preserve his balance long enough to take a good look inside he would see masses of molten matter far down, begin to hiss and boil, and surge up and down with convulsive moves. Then is a good time to go away, for less than 10 minutes the boiling caldron within has risen to the level of the crater, and its red hot contents are pouring over the sides, while with increased thunder and splurging noises little columns of lava spout up into the air, and lumps of mud and stones are thrown out. What this volcano does is repeated by all the other active volcanoes. As they are countless in number, it follows the din of eruption is continuous and well nigh deafening.

The pen fails to describe in full the actual feelings upon looking upon this piece of the earth, on which we have our living. It is from this scene or one like it, that we are indebted for the vivid description of hell by our old Methodist preacher. Once the sight of this place a person would not need any imagination to picture the realities of the lake of burning brimstone, for this locality far exceeds the imagination.

#### GRANGE MEETINGS.

Special meetings for the purpose of exemplifying the degree work of the Order will be held at the following places during January. This is a very important part of Grange work and all patrons, and especially officers, should make it a point to attend the meetings:

Feidler, Thursday, January 9, 7 p. m.

Madisonburg, Friday, January 10, 1 p. m.

Logan, Tuesday, January 28, 1 p. m.

Marion, Wednesday, January 29, 1 p. m.

Howard, Thursday, January 30, 1 p. m.

Benner, Friday, January 31, 1 p. m.

#### MEETING OF POMONA.

The regular meeting of Pomona will be held in the hall of Bald Eagle Grange Milesburg, Thursday, January 23, 10 a. m. All fire insurance directors are requested to attend this meeting, as there will be some very important business brought up for discussion at that time.

All Fourth Degree members are cordially invited to attend Pomona.

The Fifth degree will be conferred to all who are eligible.

A very interesting program has been prepared.

GEORGE M. DALE, Master.

D. M. CAMPBELL, Secretary.

#### Guardian Appointed.

The Sunday papers contained an item to the effect that Hon. James Milliken, who was formerly a resident of this place, but who has lived in New York for several years past, has been adjudged by a sheriff's jury in that city, as incompetent to take care of either himself or his property. Mr. Milliken is a bachelor 77 years old and possesses property valued at more than \$400,000 almost entirely made up of securities. He also has real estate in Pennsylvania, the value of which is said to be about \$25,000. The income from his property is \$15,000 yearly.

Edward P. Milliken, a nephew, has been appointed by Judge Scott, of the New York Supreme Court, committee of his uncle's estate. Mr. Milliken is a brother of Miss Marion L. Milliken, of this place, who is 74 years of age, and in feeble health. While here last summer it was noticeable that his mind was becoming weak with age.

#### Almost Asphyxiated.

Mr. and Mrs. John Weaver, living on a mile east of Farmers Mills, built a coal fire in the sleeping room and shortly afterward retired. Sunday morning 29th, Charles Stover, who lives near by, failed to see smoke issuing from the Weaver chimney, and went to their home, and found Mr. and Mrs. Weaver in bed in an unconscious condition from coal gas. Dr. Braught was immediately summoned, and with a little effort Mr. Weaver was restored to consciousness, but Mrs. Weaver failed for a long time to respond to the usual remedies.

#### Grange Ins. Meeting.

At the annual meeting of the Grange Mutual Fire Ins. Company, at the Garman House, on Tuesday, all the former officers were re-elected, viz: President, I. S. Frain; Vice President, W. H. Miller; Secretary, James A. Keller; Treasurer, S. H. Bailey. The following directors from adjoining counties were present: M. J. Owens, Clearfield; J. W. Black, Blair; J. H. Moses, Bedford; W. H. Dornblazer, Clinton. About three and one half millions insurance are now in force.

#### A Good Show.

The attraction at the Garman opera house on Friday, Jan. 10, will be the Criterion Theatre Brooklyn success, "The Flip Mr. Flop." Like all comedies of this kind, the fun is fast and furious. A number of first class specialties and abundance of catchy music is introduced during the action of the play.

## 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

The Milesburg lodge O. U. A. M. will hold a public installation of officers, at Milesburg Saturday evening next.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Smith, of Unionville, announce the engagement of their daughter, Clara, to Geo. W. Bullock, of Punxsutawney, Pa.

John Snyder, one of State College's industrious young men, left Friday last for Pittsburg where he has secured employment in the Westing House.

Dr. George W. Krumbine, formerly of Centre Hall, now of Williamsport, intends soon to move his family to Kippie, near Altoona, where he will practice medicine.

The dedication of the Mt. U. B. church, of Port Matilda charge will take place Sunday, January 19. Preaching at 10:30 and 7:00 p. m. by Rev. J. L. Ressler, of Johnstown; W. R. Dillen, pastor.

The much talked of sale of the Potter house in Phillipsburg, was consummated Monday afternoon, when it became the property of Geo. W. Mapledoram, who paid thirty thousand dollars spot cash.

C. W. Hosterman's hotel at Woodward made a narrow escape from being burned the other day. Live coals of fire fell on the floor and burned quite a large hole into it before the flames were discovered.

Rev. Richard H. Wharton, of Milesburg, a past master and active member of Tyrore lodge No. 404. Free and Accepted Masons, has just been honored with appointment of one of the grand chaplains of the Masonic grand lodge of Pennsylvania, for the ensuing year.

Joe Peters, who resides near Pleasant Gap, had the misfortune of losing his big Newfoundland dog. Mr. Peters was sawing wood with a circular saw and while playing with another dog he got under the last revolving saw and his head was cut in two.

Mrs. J. W. Gingerich, of Milesburg, gave a surprise dinner to her husband, who came home from Morrisdale, where he has been employed, on New Year's. There were 48 guests present and they all had an enjoyable time. Miss Brower acted as organist and furnished some fine music for the occasion.

Henry P. Stine, of Co. E, 10 reg. U. S. I., stationed at Fort Crook, Neb., spent the past month visiting his parents at Fillmore, while on a furlough. He spent several years with the regulars in Cuba and likes army life. He left for Fort Crook on Monday, but paid his subscription far in advance before leaving.

Miss Mary Gitt, who visits quite frequently at the home of Rev. C. T. Aikens at Pine Grove Mills, recently met with quite a serious accident. She is quite an aged maiden lady and while out walking slipped and fell, breaking her thigh. She is a granddaughter of James Bishop, after whom Bishop street, in Bellefonte, was named.

There was a wood-cutting contest at Aaronsburg, a few days ago. Abner Acker claimed he could cut off a log with an ax as quick as two men with a cross cut saw, which resulted in a contest. Warren Winkleblech and John Hetzel cut a log with a saw in two minutes ten seconds, and Acker with an ax only cut a chip on one side to the centre when time was called.

George Weaver, the 16 year old son of David P. Weaver, of Scotia, was killed Friday morning by dynamite. The young man is employed by the Bellefonte Pottery Company as a driver at the Scotia Mines, and had gone into a shanty to get warm. Some of the other employees had placed some dynamite near the stove to thaw out, and it is supposed that it got too hot and exploded.

Quite a sensation was created in Snow Shoe, last Friday night, by the arrest of Andrew Flari, a Hungarian, who it is alleged shot and killed one of his fellow countrymen at that place five years ago. He had not been heard of in that place or vicinity since the tragedy until last Thursday when he brought his wife to Snow Shoe town, and it was while on his way home he was apprehended by constable Lucas, who kept him in custody until he delivered him safely in the county jail at Bellefonte.

#### IN ADJOINING COUNTIES.

Harry R. Leyden, who has been recreating for a month at his old home in Beech Creek, left last week for his new home at Bellefonte.

## FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

### Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

The equilibrist has a steady job. What lady shoppers need is a set of buy-laws.

Taking time by the forelock—1902 calendars.

The biggest fork we ever saw was a tiny thing.

All the machine-made poetry is not typewritten.

They don't use coffin plates at an undertakers' banquet.

The people who never meddle are the ones who deserve medals.

For making a big noise, it is hard work to beat a bass drum.

It's funny, but a horse can eat best without a bit in its mouth.

You can't make a bad egg good no matter how much you beat it.

If you want to please the new woman tell her to brace up and be a man.

The plans they have in the Mint are nearly all a money-making schemes.

Among the things that are bound to turn up, sooner or later, are your toes.

The fellow who gets the reputation of being a cheap skate doesn't cut much ice.

A man is known by the company he keeps; a woman by the company she has.

It's funny that people are not in the swim when society throws them overboard.

It's a bad thing to quarrel with the milkman. He'll make you take water every time.

Despite the temperance advocates, the fellow who drinks to excess is the one who gets a head.

The hired girl may not know much about cards, but she can easily raise the deuce by dropping a tray.

#### HE WANTED A VARIETY.

Frank Houtz, who resides at Mill Hall, was arrested in Lock Haven on Friday afternoon for stealing articles in Hilton's drug store. Houtz made several visits to the store, and while making a few purchases improved his time, while the clerk's attention were directed elsewhere, to grabbing articles that were within reach consisting of fine china, several bottles of perfume, several cakes of soap, etc, etc, the aggregate value of which amounted to upwards of twenty five dollars. They took Houtz to Alderman Anthony's office, who sent him to jail. Houtz pretended to be drunk, but could give no good excuse for taking the articles. He offered to settle the case by paying for the goods, but it was decided that the law must take its course.

Between his trips to the store, Houtz entered John Krouse's confectionery and requested that the goods, which he had stolen from Hilton's, be wrapped. This was done, when Houtz showed his ingratitude by stealing a grape fruit from Mr. Krouse.—Democrat.

#### ORGAN CONTEST.

Wednesday evening at 6 o'clock, Jan. 29th, the ballot box will be closed at this office for votes in the Rstey Organ contest. The judges, Messrs. Ambrose Slotman and Thos. J. Sexton, Esq., will then make their final count and the result will be announced in the issue of the 30th, as to who shall have the fine instrument. All persons who have coupons should see that same get here in time to be counted. Several thousand Premium Coupon votes were issued and few thus far have been returned. This is to remind you that the contest is drawing to a close and not to hold votes beyond that time.

#### Back is Broken.

Dorsey Lucas, of Beech Creek, was taken to Philadelphia, Tuesday to undergo treatment for a broken back, while working in the Cato coal mines, near Snow Shoe, May 17, 1898, he had his back broken by a sudden fall of rock and has been an invalid ever since. A few months ago he was taken to Philadelphia where an X-ray photograph revealed the diagonal fracture of a vertebra, which caused pressure on the spinal cord, producing paralysis. An operation was performed in the Medico-Chirurgical hospital, which was satisfactory to a certain degree and Mr. Lucas recovered the use of the upper portion of his body, but his lower limbs have remained useless.

#### To Destroy Huntingdon.

Three more incendiary fires occurred in Huntingdon last Sunday night, making sixteen within a few weeks. The offer of \$1,000 reward for the apprehension of the fire-bugs, offered by the borough council, has brought no results. The insurance companies are refusing many risks on properties here, and it is said they will cancel all policies unless a check is put on the wholesale incendiarianism now prevailing.

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