

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. TITZ, Proprietor.

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OUR HISTORICAL REVIEW

A Few Stray Incidents of Pioneer Life.

LARGE ELECTION DISTRICTS

Preachers Traveled Over Large Sections and Sermons Were Few—Early Assessments in Some of the Townships.

CHAP. XXXIII.

During the old settlers' days election districts were as few and far between and wide apart as the circuits of the preachers. In 1785 and several years thereafter, Potter township, Buffalo and White Deer, (now in Union county) held their elections at a mill, later Rocky's, a short distance below Millburg. Some of the pioneer ministers had all of Penns valley and Buffalo valley as their charges, and traveled on horseback and sometimes afoot. Parsonages and acceptable salaries were not thought of just then, and the minister depended upon the hospitality of his flock and even of such good people as were not of his or any other flock. The early settlers were full to the brim, as a rule, of hospitality. Even back as late as 50 and 60 years ago, the German Reformed charge embraced nearly all Penns valley. When Rev. P. S. Fisher was pastor of the denomination, stationed at Boalsburg, his charge took in all the Reformed churches from above Boalsburg to the lower end of Penns valley, and sermons were delivered once a month in each church. The lot of the other denominations was about the same.

The following incidents were related by Hon. Samuel Frank, of Rebersburg, to the compiler for the Centre Democrat, which are worthy a place in our Historical Review, having occurred some seventy years ago, when his parents lived at Aaronsburg:

One evening an Indian came to the home of his parents, and was given food and shelter for the night.

The lad Samuel having heard so much about the cruelties of the red men, he became greatly alarmed, and visions of massacre filled him with terror, so much that he could not sleep when he was put to bed, for there was a murderous "Injon" in the house. After going through much agony on that account, he left his couch and crept to his father's bed for safety, and to save his scalp. The red man however was harmless and Samuel does not to day wear a wig. He also mentions of the Indians having had a path along the foot of the mountain north of Aaronsburg, to Nittany valley.

At another time, he relates, a lot of Indians, a squaw among them, came along and held an Indian dance at Hoch's tavern in Aaronsburg at night; among them was an Indian who said his father had him there when a boy; they had a camp at a big spring, somewhere in that section but he could not tell where the spring was, but remembered what it looked like. They took him to Dutweiler's spring and he recognized it as the place. Above the spring was an Indian burial ground, and many arrows were found there years after. The spring is on Elk creek, one mile south of Millheim.

There was a superstition among the whites in that vicinity, that whenever there were signs for rain the Indians in the burial ground would set up a howl from their graves. The country was densely wooded at that time.

In 1786 Bald Eagle township, (now Spring), had the following additional settlers:

Antes, Henry (grist-mill).	McGee, John (on Margaret Bradford tract of Wallis, in Liberty twp.)
Bennett, James (grist-mill).	McCraeken, William.
Crawford, Robert.	Mason, John.
Davis, William.	Michael, John.
Dowdy, John.	Quickley, Michael.
Hansak, David.	Ramey, James S.
Holt, Jacob.	Richards, Frederick.
Hamilton, Hugh.	Skidmore, Joshua.
Heiford, Christopher.	Sparr, Alexander.
Gunsalus, Derick.	Terwilliger, John.
King, Joseph.	Westbrooke, James.
Knapp, Ebenezer.	Westbrooke, Richard.
Lumber, Joseph.	Lucas, Benedict.
McCormick, John (marked as non resident on tax list).	

George McCormick's at Spring Mills was the place of holding elections for Potter after 1786, and five years thereafter the polling place was changed to Aaron Levy's house, in Aaronsburg, who was the founder of that town, and it was then in Potter.

The great run-away from Penns valley, on account of a coming great incursion of the Indians, to pillage and slaughter, left no white settlers behind and their homes and cleared acres were deserted and remained thus some four years; when the danger seemed over, the inhabitants returned, and the only assessments of Potter were those made in 1786, namely:

Andrew, Malcolm. Henney, Adam.

Ayres, Abraham.	Henney, Christopher.
Bonn, Frederick.	Honney, Hieronymus.
Cannon, James.	Hess, Matthias.
Carnahan, William.	Hubler, Jacob (grist and sawmill).
Chambers, Thomas.	Hubler, John.
Conser, Henry.	Johnston, Alexander.
Eisey, Peter.	Johnston, James.
Ertle, Valentine.	Jordan, Benjamin (tax with a negro).
Garret, John.	King, Francis.
Gelswet, George.	King, William (taxed ed with a slave).
Gibson, James.	Lamb, William (grist-mill).
Glasgow, Samuel.	Long, Daniel.
Green, Thomas.	Long, Michael.
Hall, John.	Roll, John.
Harter, Adam.	Ross, Joseph.
Hastings, John.	Sandford, Abraham.
Livingston, Daniel.	Shingle, Phillip.
Livingston, David.	Stover, Adam.
McCashon, James.	Stover, Frederick.
McConnell, John.	Stover, Jacob.
McCormick, George.	Stover, John.
McCormick, John.	Thompson, Thomas.
McKim, Robert.	Thomson, Robert.
McViekar, Duncan.	Uise, Jacob.
Miller, Henry.	Vanborne, Joseph.
Mitchell, John.	Van Ostrand, George.
Morrow, Andrew.	Van Ostrand, John.
Motz, Michael.	Watt, John.
Nesly, John.	Watson, John.
Pennington, Robert.	Weaver, David.
Platt, Robert.	Wilson, William.
Pontius, George.	Wolfe, George.
Reynolds, Adam.	Woods, George.
Reinhardt, George.	
Reinhardt, Joseph.	
Robertson, Anthony.	

Gen. James Potter is marked as a non-resident, he having his residence in White Deer township, now Union county.

Abraham Platt, John Hall, and George Woods were the assessors.

Daniel Turner took up the land where Roopsburg now stands, on Spring Creek, Sept. 14, 1787, and the sad incident related by Judge Linn, illustrative of the hardships of the early settlers, is referable to the severe winter of 1787-88. Turner left for Clearfield county to hunt and trap. His family ran out of provisions, and his wife came to Lamb's, where Bellefonte now stands, to borrow some meal. Going back she took a different path, the children started down to meet her, taking the usual path. They got bewildered and spent the night on the hill, the boys taking off their coats to cover the youngest children. When it got light they said they could not get the two youngest awake, and they went and reported at Nathan Williams'. The pure flakes of snow had fallen upon their little bodies, their up-turned eyes were glazed over, and their little mouths half opened. They were buried on the side of the mound at the Great Spring.

He Was Green.

An unsophisticated countryman ventured into the prothonotary's office at Hollidaysburg and cautiously approaching one of the clerks, exhibited a marriage license which he had procured last September. He asked that the blank marriage certificate be filled out. He was asked who had performed the ceremony and replied that he had been married in that office by the prothonotary. Upon further inquiry it was disclosed that he and his intended bride were under the impression that the marriage ceremony had been performed at the time they procured the license and when they had sworn that they had true answers made to the questions relative to their intended marriage. The couple have been living as man and wife ever since in blissful ignorance. But from the information obtained they will probably experience a genuine marriage ceremony in the near future.

Engine Ran Away.

The safety valve of the engine at E. F. Hall's saw mill, at Hall's Run, got out of order a few days ago, and the governor belt broke, causing the engine to run the machinery so rapidly that a metal pulley flew into pieces. The flying pieces of pulley cut the rafters, causing the roof to fall. A circular saw was reduced to atoms. Finally the engine was torn from its foundation and started furiously about the mill, smashing everything in its path, until the steam chest broke. The employes miraculously escaped. Mr. Hall jumped fifteen feet, breaking his right ankle.

Smallpox at Laurelton.

Miss Ida Vonedra, a young lady who for a number of years held a position in Philadelphia, took ill about ten days ago and returned to her parents home at Laurelton, Union county. On Monday a consultation of physicians pronounced it a case of smallpox. Laurelton is along the Lewisburg & Tyrone R. R. and not far from the Centre county line. She was clerk in Gimbel's store, Philadelphia, and came home a week ago. Several acquaintances were in to see her before they learned the nature of her disease.

Tails Twelve Feet Long.

A new breed of chickens just received in New York from China has tails twelve feet long. They are kept in cages and when they are taken out for exercise an attendant goes along to hold up the feathers. The hens lay thirty eggs a year which are hatched by other hens.

Pine feathers make a girl feel like a bird.

INSTITUTE AT BOALSBURG

The Teachers of District No. 2 in Session.

LIVE TOPICS DISCUSSED

Prominent Instructors Were Present and Took Part in the Exercises. Programme of the Various Sessions.

District No. 2, held their first local institute for the year at Boalsburg, on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 17th and 18th, 1902. The institute was opened by singing with Miss Dora Meyer, a pupil of the Boalsburg High school, presiding at the piano. Devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. G. W. Leisher. The subject for the evening was "Duties of School Directors" which was opened by Supt. C. L. Gramley. He showed in a very able manner the duties of the directors. The first one which he named was that of seeing that none but young men or women of good moral character should be selected for to teach our schools. Next that they should visit the schools and see how things there were progressing and to praise the teacher if he was doing good work, but to never scold a teacher before his school for what may not seem right to the director and talk to him privately about the matter. The next speaker was Rev. Leisher who showed why the parents should help the directors in their work. The next subject was "How can we secure the co-operation of the parents?" Rev. Hepler being sick, Prof. E. G. Booze, of State College, opened the subject. He showed the way in which we can secure the co-operation of the parents; get the parents interested in the schools. Prof. Gramley then said a few words and the institute adjourned.

The first subject taken up Saturday morning was "History," which was opened by Prof. J. C. Bryson, of Boalsburg, who read a very able paper and brought out some excellent points. Many of the teachers took part in the discussion and brought out many things which the teachers could take back to their school-room and use them. The next subject was "What Does the Parent Expect of the Teacher?" which was opened by Thomas L. Moore, of Potter township, who made a very good speech saying that the parent often expects too much of the teacher. The next subject was "Borough High School Course" opened by Prof. Igen, of Centre Hall, who showed what they were doing in Centre Hall high school and also gave some very valuable hints to all teachers. In the afternoon the subject was taken up again and discussed by Prof. Bryson and Prof. Stahr, of Pine Grove.

The subject opened in the afternoon was "Co-relation of Studies" by Miss Hayman, of State College. Her discussion was very good. The next subject taken up was "Teaching of Standard Literature," opened by G. C. Hosterman, of Harris township, who made some excellent remarks showing what a good influence good literature had on the children. "How to Teach Primary Geography" was then opened by Miss Gertrude Weiland, teacher in the Boalsburg primary school, who gave some very valuable hints. E. K. Smith, of Oak Hall, also made quite a rousing speech. The next subject "Preparation for Teaching" was opened by D. K. Mothersbaugh who made a very lengthy speech and also gave some good points to the teachers to prepare their lessons every day. The institute then adjourned to meet some time next month in Centre Hall. Prof. Igen was elected chairman and J. C. Strohm secretary.

GUM BOOTS ON BIG BULL.

Cattle thieves who have been operating extensively in Clearfield and Elk counties adopted a peculiar and novel method of hiding their trail.

They recently drove off a big bull belonging to Z. L. Hartsborn. In order to disguise the animal's tracks while going through Pennfield at night, the thieves put rubber boots on the bull's feet. Thus the journey was made in a quiet, stealthy manner, and no telltale hoof marks were left in the roadway. The thieves have a rendezvous in the great forest east of here. The stolen cattle are taken there until the chase blows over, and are then disposed of.

Hotel Man's Anniversary.

The forty-eighth anniversary of Peter Meitzler's career as a hotel keeper, was celebrated by a banquet at the Riverside hotel, Lock Haven on Thursday night, 16th. Thirty years of Mr. Meitzler's life as a hotel keeper were spent in that city. About 60 guests enjoyed the hospitality of the genial proprietor. The bill of fare included everything seasonable.

MRS. NATION AND JOHN L.

Carrie Nation and John L. Sullivan are to be twin stars in a forthcoming production of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," in Boston. It is said that Carrie is to appear as Little Eva and John L. as Uncle Tom.

As to Carrie Nation's part in the performance, it is said that she was first asked to play "Topsy," but declined, on the ground that it was too coarse and vulgar for one of her refined susceptibilities. The same critics sustain her in this view, pointing out that as the lady of the axe, even in her most assertive moments, she always claimed to have one eye on Heaven. She will undoubtedly bring out all the finer spiritual shades of Little Eva's character. It is furthermore said that she has long cherished an ambition to elevate the stage.

The production will, of course, be equipped in superb style with "live blood-hounds" and real ice.

Interesting to Boys.

A piece of information that should be interesting to boys who smoke cigarettes is that, in the majority of the department stores of this country the employment department men, before engaging boys, look at their hands for the yellow stains of nicotine. "We wouldn't think of taking in a lad who had the cigarette habit, you know," a manager said the other day, "for boys who don't smoke have better hearts and are stronger and can do more work than those who do. Besides, a smoking boy nearly always develops at 20 or 30 into a drinking man, but the non-smoker is apt to be a total abstainer, and that is the sort of person we merchants want to handle our money for us. Look first at the applicant's fingers for cigarette stains—that is the rule with every employment department manager in the country. Of course, we are sometimes fooled by boys who wash the stains away before applying for positions to us."

West Branch Tunnel.

The tunnel through the mountain for the West Branch road near Karthaus was opened a few days ago, the forces of workmen that have been working from each end having come together. The tunnel is being built on a curve and when completed will be in the shape of a letter U. This made the engineering work extremely difficult. The engineer's lines running from both sides of the tunnel, met within a half an inch when the headings were connected. A shortage of only three inches in the entire length of the tunnel was discovered when the distance was measured after the opening was made. This measurement was made over piles of dirt and rocks and the difference in the measurement may be reduced when the tunnel is completed and a survey is made along the level. The tunnel is 1,413 feet in length and the curve has a radius of 9,666 feet.

A Remarkable Woman.

"Not twenty miles from Morrisdale lives a woman 57 years of age. She has reared a large family. She owns a good farm of 75 acres, has money in the bank and she could spend the balance of her life at ease. Last fall with the aid of a son she prospected for coal on her farm and found a three-foot vein. She opened a draft and developed the mine. She dug and loaded four and five tons a day and sold it to farmers and people in the vicinity at five cents a bushel. In speaking about it to a friend she said she could load and run the coal out all right but she hated the mining; this part of the work was the most irksome because she had to lie down to mine. She does her own plunging. She frequently walks to Philipsburg, a distance of ten miles."—Search Light.

Religious Revival Closes Saloons.

Religious enthusiasm is running high at Jersey Shore, and as a result an unique occurrence, without precedent in the history of the locality, is being enacted. Owing to the interest taken in revival services being held in four of the churches, the Presbyterian, First Methodist, Baptist and Lutheran, every place of business, including saloons and hotel barrooms are closed each evening during the hours the meeting are in progress.—Lock Haven Express.

A Duty He Liked.

A preacher, raising his eyes from his pulpit in the midst of his sermon, was paralyzed with amazement to see his son in the gallery pelting the hearers in the pews with horse chestnuts. But while the good man was preparing a frown of reproof, the young hopeful cried out, "You 'tend to your preaching daddy, and I'll keep 'em awake."

The Little Blue Book.

For this month just out. The revised time tables of all Pennsylvania railroads. An indispensable traveling companion. Issued every month. One dollar per year by mail, single copies 10 cents. Address W. P. Hastings, Milton, Penna.

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

W. J. Hackenburg has been appointed postmaster at Centre Mills.

One night last week some thief stole John Reish's meat at Millheim.

An infant of Grant Coble, of Houser's ville, aged about two months, died last Saturday night.

Rev. Mumma, Free Methodist of Unionville, is conducting a revival in the church at Valentine's iron works.

The 2 year-old daughter of George Mensch, of Millheim, fell from a chair and broke her arm.

Noah F. Stover, of Millheim, has been confined to his home for the last two weeks with a severe cold.

Walter Kerlin, of Centre Hall, has secured employment with the Security Bank Note company, Philadelphia.

The first meeting of the teachers' local institute, for district No. 1, will be held at Aaronsburg, Friday evening, January 31, and Saturday, February 1.

The basket ball game played at State College, Friday evening, between State and the Lock Haven Normal, resulted in a victory for the former by the score of 4 to 13.

The indications are that Howard will experience another building boom this summer, reports the Hustler. Several houses will be commenced as soon as the weather is fit and more are in contemplation for the summer.

Up to 35 years ago election tickets were printed in both English and German in this county, and in the German Reformed, Lutheran, Evangelical and U. B. churches nine-tenths of the sermons were in German. Now all this is done in English.

A Missionary Social will be held at the home of Miss Janet McFarlane, near Boalsburg, on the evening of Jan. 31st. Miss McFarlane will show her friends her missionary tree and is preparing various other entertainments for them. A pleasant time is promised; an offering of ten cents will be taken at the door.

Rumor says a young lady and gentleman, of Aaronsburg, registered at one of the Bellefonte hotels, last week; when they retired he either had no light or was a little bewildered and got in the number of room occupied by the lady and of course was fired out by a member of the house where they stopped.

Al. Bechdel, whose barn was burned some time ago at Howard, intends to rebuild on the site of the old one this spring. He recently purchased the building of the Bellefonte nail works and will use the lumber for building purposes. The lumber was hauled down on wagons last Tuesday, which made a very long train.

While Harry Baker, of Nittany, and part of his family were at church Sunday morning 12th, a molasses bucket that had been left on the stove stewing some vegetables for dinner exploded, throwing scalding water and hot vegetables over their little six year old daughter Ida who was near the stove at the time and was horribly burned by the explosion.

Miss Catharine Parker has been appointed post-mistress at Roland to succeed her father, the late J. M. Parker. This appointment has given general satisfaction in that community. Since the death of Mr. Parker his son-in-law W. Galer Morrison, of Bellefonte, has been devoting his attention to affairs of the estate, and we would not be surprised to see him finally locate at Roland and continue the mercantile business.

John W. Conley, of near Centre Hall, had a peculiar wreck at Auman's mill Wednesday 15th. The hoisting at the mill is done with steam power, and in some manner the sled got tangled up in the load that was being lifted to the second story. This frightened the horses, which started to run away. Mr. Conley was thrown from his sled, but managed to secure a hold on the line; he was dragged a considerable distance by the horses, but with a few cuts about the head escaped injury.—Reporter.

IN ADJOINING COUNTIES.

The President has appointed Robert D. Peck postmaster at Lock Haven.

Oliver S. Rumberger, of Warriors Mark, has been granted a pension of \$12 a month.

Mr. Simons, head of one of the old and prominent Lock Haven mercantile firms, Continued on 8th page.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

A county seat—the top fence rail. Watches and men are known by their works.

Some people will take everything except a hint.

Does a standing army ever occupy the seat of war?

A man naturally feels cheap when his salary is reduced.

Some people are so lazy that even their lives won't work.

The weaker a man is, the stronger his bad habits grow on him.

The people who have the most to say sometimes talk the least.

Old bachelors wear cotton gloves because they don't like kids.

Some people even get pleasure from their troubles, in telling them to other people.

The fellows who say that it costs no more for two to live than for one evidently never had twins.

There is a new paper in Kansas whose motto is: "Lie, steal, drink, swear," and it is thus explained by the editor: "When you lie, let it be down to pleasant dreams; when you steal, let it be away from immoral associates; when you drink, let it be pure water; when you swear, let it be that you will patronize your home paper, pay your subscription and not send your jobwork elsewhere."

A man came into the Breeze office several weeks ago and paid up arrearage on his subscription. He said he wanted to be ready for the revival. Well, we had great confidence in that man's religion before he did that, but we have greater confidence than ever since. The church as well as the world sadly needs a revival of debt-paying Christianity. We wouldn't give much for a man's religion if it doesn't make him try, at least, to pay his debts.—North East Breeze.

Teachers Surprised.

The pupils and friends of Miss B. Lillian Davidson, teacher of Snow Shoe Intersection, also those of Miss Nellie Buzzell, teacher of Pine Grove, co-operated and gave a party in honor of their teachers at the residence of J. H. Davidson 2 miles east of Unionville. Through the kindness of P. B. Iddings and wife about 50 young people gathered at their home, for the evening. The spacious home of Mr. Davidson was brilliantly lighted and heated without the knowledge of the young ladies concerned. They were met at the door by Miss Lillian who was too much surprised to invite them in, but the guests understanding the situation did not wait to be ushered in but rushed in to find Miss Nellie who could not realize whether it was an army of murderers or burglars. After being relieved of wraps Mrs. Davidson gave them possession of the house. Several hours were spent in play then they were invited to the dining room where a sumptuous feast was awaiting. Blair seemed to be particularly fond of pickles, never leaving a dish pass him but arranging them in a circle about his plate while a certain young lady at the extreme end of the table looked longingly at them.

Upon leaving the dining room some preferred to linger in the quiet of the cozy corner in the dimly lighted hall to joining in the music and games of the parlors. When the wee small hours arrived the happy company bade good-bye to the family, expressing their delight with the evening's entertainment. Just one thing was wanting—a "Bush."

Old Story, but Worth Retelling.

A broken down editor who had starved to death was being taken to heaven by his guardian angel. On his way he asked permission to see the other place before the gates of heaven closed behind him. His request was granted. Arriving at hades and rambling around among the furnaces he got lost from his guide. He finally stopped before a furnace labeled "Delinquent Subscribers," and in there he saw a number of men dancing around on the hot coals in great agony. The sight fascinated him, and he continued to gaze on their sufferings, oblivious to all else around him. Finally the angel found him and reminded him that it was time to go on to heaven. "Well, you go on," replied the fascinated editor. "I'm going to stay right here. This is heaven enough for me."

ORGAN CONTEST CLOSES.

Again we wish to call attention to the fact that the contest for the Estey organ will close on Saturday, February 1st, at 12 noon. If you are interested in any church having the organ you should see that your coupons are sent in at once. There are a great many Premium Coupons out and some may have forgotten that they hold them.