

The Centre Democrat.

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BELLEVILLE

"MORGANIZED"

Our Capital Going to Wall Street Promoters.

MANY LAMBS WERE SHORN

Have no Time for Industrial Enterprises—Shops and Mills are not Inviting—"Get Rich Quick" Plan—Young Men Leave.

The rapid decline in the price of United States Steel stocks, in the midst of all the glowing prosperity, is bringing the average investor to his sober senses. This gigantic corporation has accomplished two things: First, formed a combine or trust of the steel plants in our country and then advanced the price of their product beyond legitimate rates. Next, they "Morganzized" the public: the value of all their properties was fully covered by the issue of bonds, and preferred stock, which in the minds of many represents already more than the actual value of all of their plants. Then they placed on the market millions upon millions of common stock which the public bought at from \$40 and up per share—all wind—nothing but profit for Morgan, Carnegie, Frick and the few others. In a comparatively short time this common stock has dropped to \$17 and many predict \$10 will soon be reached. The reason for this is that the property of the United States Steel is practically owned by the bond holders and preferred stock, while the common stock eventually will be wind.

It is said that in Belleville alone over \$100,000 worth of common stock is held, and other towns hold about the same. This means a great loss—no, not a loss, but a smart scheme for inducing the public to turn over to Wall street promoters, trust boomers, several hundred millions of cash. The public was "Morganzized."

Following the same principle, the "Consolidated Lake Superior," an immense copper mining concern that a year ago was quoted on the market at \$40,000,000 has gone to smash and this week its preferred stock was quoted at 2 1/2 or worth a total of only \$1,000,000, a loss to investors of almost the entire amount. Just where the cause for this exists is not certain—somebody got it—not the small investors but the promoters. We hear of many thousands of Belleville capital being poured into this rat hole.

If all the money that has gone out of Belleville in the past ten years, chasing the ignis fatuus profits on the stock market, were compiled it would be a stupendous sum, startling and amazing. We venture to say that if one-half the amount had been invested in upholding local enterprises that languish for want of capital, or our natural resources of lime stone, iron ores, coal fields, valuable deposits of clay or sand were developed and converted into marketable products, real estate would not be taking a breakneck decline in Belleville, and hundreds of our hustling, ambitious young men would not be leaving our town to win success in more active industrial centres, leaving with us only the sapheads who loaf around the streets, utilizing their time rolling "pimpsticks" and stand erect all day long for fear of deranging the crease in their thread-worn trousers.

With the capital that has been shorn from Belleville "Lambs" in such speculation—as big returns are the temptation—we could be building several modern tank glass factories, revive the nail works, open up more stone quarries, revive our rolling mills and extinct axe factories, secure new enterprises until our town would enjoy the reputation of being a prominent industrial centre, where young men would find inviting and profitable employment.

The trouble with the bulk of our people of means is that the clutter of the mill and the odor of the workshop is offensive, beneath their inclination and tastes. The "get rich plan" is the only mode that appeals to them—they become Morganzized, and soon are shorn of their fleece.

Some will criticize these comments, but they are made from observation and deliberation. Belleville needs an awakening in industrial lines. There are too many "go easy" drones; too much time wasted on political and social life, instead of legitimate effort to earn a living, and not live on what somebody else has earned. Belleville has attained marked distinction, but if we are not careful dry-rot will eat out our industrial life while mildew and cobwebs will gradually envelop our business centres—there is some danger.

John Phillips shot and seriously wounded Los Phillips, his nephew, at Parsonville Tuesday afternoon, 15th in a dispute over some ground. The fellow was taken to the Phillipsburg hospital Wednesday morning and officer Kahlor took John Phillips to the county jail.

ANOTHER CHANGE.

For many years, on pages 2 and 3 of the CENTRE DEMOCRAT, there appeared from four to six columns of general news—covering home and foreign events. In many instances this telegraph summary, while better than that furnished by other local papers, was not satisfactory; was incomplete in that news items, without any relation or connection to preceding events, often appeared and could not be properly appreciated or understood except by those who had access to daily papers.

To overcome this an entirely new service will be supplied in the future. It will be in the form of editorial review or analysis of the important events of the week explaining the connection and relation of one event to some former or future event, so that the average reader can readily grasp and comprehend more fully the world's important happenings.

This method of publishing the news happenings is followed by high grade magazines like the "Outlook," "Harper's Weekly" and others. The service proves an expensive one, as much time and labor is necessary to prepare it, but nothing is too good for our patrons.

For that reason we call special attention to the change in the hope that it will increase the value of the CENTRE DEMOCRAT in the estimation of its numerous patrons.

Another meritorious point in this service—it is non partisan, non political. No matter what the political views of the Centre Democrat are, they have no consideration in this report, therefore our readers have the assurance of a reliable service, that should prove of great value.

RECENT DEATHS.

MRS. WILL WAGNER:—of Port Matilda, died on the 10th with fever, and was buried on the 12th. She leaves to mourn their loss, four children, a husband, six brothers and three sisters, father and mother.

MILES LEWIS:—died at his home in Bald Eagle valley, Saturday evening, while sitting on the porch talking to some of the members of his family; he suffered on attack of neuralgia of the heart and expired almost instantly. He was aged 59 years, 11 months and 15 days. His wife, Mrs. Eliza Lewis, died on the 5th of April of last year. He is survived by five children.

WILLIAM TONER:—died Sunday evening at his home, Axemann, of heart failure. He was a son of John and Mary Toner and was about 36 years old. He is survived by his father and mother and following brothers and sisters: Mrs. Mary Curry, of Wadde; Mrs. Robt. Morrison, Lizzie, of Elizabeth, Pa.; Thomas, of Axemann; James, of Belleville; and Andrew, of Clearfield. Interment in the Catholic cemetery Tuesday.

CHARLES BLOOM:—died at his home in Portland, Mo. He was a former resident of Ferguson township. Mr. Bloom was aged about 46 years and left Centre county when quite a young man. He is survived by a wife and two sons; his mother, Mrs. D. S. Erb, of State College; one brother, John, of Col., and two sisters, Mrs. J. B. Heberling, of Pine Grove Mills, and Mrs. G. W. Campbell, of Kansas. Edward S. Erb, of Belleville, is a half-brother. Interment in Missouri.

DORSEY ORVIS JONES:—died at his home in Bald Eagle, Saturday, Sept. 19, from cancer of the bowels. The deceased was a son of Edward and Tabitha Jones, and was 55 years, 8 months and 22 days of age. He is survived by his father and step-mother, of Port Matilda. He leaves his wife, Mrs. Susan Jones, and children, Philip aged 10 years, Lillie aged 8 years, Tabitha aged 2 1/2, and Mary aged one year. The remains were taken to Port Matilda where interment was made in the Presbyterian cemetery.

MRS. ELIZA ANN BAILEY:—died Saturday morning at the Bailey home on East Lamb street. She had been in failing health for several years past and had been bedfast since last March. Deceased was 84 years old. Her husband followed the printing trade for over fifty years and died at this place August 3, 1882. Surviving this union are four children, namely: William F., of Galva, Ill.; Mrs. Mary Elmore, Mrs. Wm. B. Rankin and Newton S. Bailey, of Belleville. Mrs. Bailey had been a resident of Belleville for over thirty years. The remains were taken to Williamsport Monday morning where they were interred beside those of her husband in Wildwood cemetery.

REUNION AT PENN CAVE

The Shaffer and Hazle Families Hold a Reunion.

ORGANIZATION WAS EFFECTED

Largely Attended on Wednesday—From All Sections of the County and Distant States—Some Family History—Officers Elected.

The first Schaeffer-Hazel reunion was held at Penn Cave yesterday. The day was a delightful one, and about 150 members of these families with some visiting friends were present. The forenoon was spent in social greetings and chat, and in making preparations for dinner. It being a basket affair cloths were soon spread throughout the park, and the good wives and pretty daughters began to set out the good things they had prepared in abundance for the occasion. And it was a feast fit for princes. The dinner hour being over all assembled in the pavilion, and the meeting was organized as follows:

The meeting was called to order by Michael Shaffer, Esq., of Potter, and the following organization effected: Chairman—Benj. F. Shaffer, of Nittany, who responded with a brief and appropriate address; secretary—A. J. Hazel of Madisonburg; treasurer—U. S. Shaffer, of Madisonburg.

The above officers chosen were declared the permanent organization for the ensuing year.

Prof. C. L. Gramley was then introduced and spoke at length giving data of the ancestry of the Shaffers and Hazels.

Senator Heine followed in a deserved eulogy of the Shaffers and Hazels, their usefulness, and probity of character from the earliest settler to the present day.

Fred Kurtz, of Belleville, was next introduced and spoke briefly of these families of noble pioneers.

Ammon Shaffer was called upon and made some fitting remarks.

With a vote of thanks to the speakers the meeting adjourned for social intercourse. The re-union was a success in every respect and enjoyed by all present.

HISTORICAL NOTES.

The following data is of special interest to the Shaffer and Hazle families at this time:

What the early settlers accomplished with the help of their wives is what made Brush valley a paradise. In this the Shaffers and Hazels played an important part. Among taxables in 1797, we find Barnet Hazel and Jacob Hazel, with Nicholas Shaffer and Jacob Hazel on the single list. Contemporaneous with these were Spanglers, Gramleys, Wolfs, Cornmans, etc.

The Shaffers always took a lively interest in public affairs.

In 1831 on assessment appear the names of Bernhard Hazel, Jacob Hazel, Adam Shaffer and Nicholas Shaffer, and on the single list Jacob Hazel.

In 1813 Capt. Geo. Records' Company in the war of 1812, has the name of Michael Shaffer.

The name of Hazel we find spelled originally "Hassel" the german for Hazel. Jacob Hazel came from Germany and was one of the first settlers in 1789. He bought a tract of land from Col. Miles in 1794, most of it included in Jos. Bierly's place near Centre Mills. So far as known he had only two children—Bernhard and Jacob.

Bernhard lived on what was afterwards known as the Benj. Royer farm, near Madisonburg. He moved west about 1826; Bernhard's children were John, Jacob, Philip, Peter, Bernhard, Henry, William, Susan married to Jno. Carner, of Hubersburg, Catherine married to Mr. Camp. All these sons left the valley, some going west, except Jacob, who is the ancestor of the Hazels of Madisonburg, of whom many are present at this reunion.

Capt. John Adam Shaffer came into Centre county in 1801 and purchased Valentine Ertel's interests in a lease for the tract on which his son John Adam Shaffer had lived, 1/2 mile east of Madisonburg. Part of the barn which he built in 1804, was still standing a few years ago, and may still be standing. During the campaign of Trenton and Princeton, in 1776-77, John A. Shaffer was 2nd Lieut. in a command under Col. James Potter. Lieut. Shaffer was a man of powerful frame, and said to have been the strongest man in the company.

Nicholas and John Adam were brothers. The latter was born in Berks county in 1752, died Jan. 14, 1840, and is buried in Madisonburg.

We find the Shaffers taking an active part in public affairs, upon all occasions, as watchful citizens.

In 1831 Michael Shaffer was appointed a member of the Jackson Democrat county committee; and John a delegate

from Miles to Jackson Democrat county convention.

In 1839 Andrew Shaffer was a Miles twp. delegate to democrat county convention.

In 1855 the Penns valley cadets chose Capt. Shaffer as their captain. Capt. Shaffer's children were: Hon. John Shaffer, associate judge 1841-46, born Jan. 31, 1789, died Sept. 21, 1851; George, Michael, Adam, born Nov. 22, 1796, died some years ago; Jacob and Samuel. The daughters were Catherine Barbara, Lizzie, Eva and Madaline. The Hazels and Shaffers located in the same neighborhood, arriving about 1791. Nicholas Shaffer owned the Piedler farm; when he arrived his household goods were unloaded under a large oak tree until a cabin could be built. His land was purchased from Col. Miles.

Nicholas Schaeffer was born in Berks county, in 1750, died in 1825, aged 75 years. He was twice married. There were 14 children: John Nicholas, Adam, George, Jacob, Julian, Catharine, Eva, Rebecca, Susan, Mary, Sarah, Rachel and Nancy.

L. A. Schaeffer, of Belleville, is a well-known citizen of our county, and was elected Prothonotary for two terms—six years.

The war record of the Schaeffer's is one they may well feel proud of.

Daniel E. Schaeffer was 2nd lieut. in Co. A, promoted sergt Nov. 15th, 1863; died at Madisonburg, Sept. 12, 1864.

Isreal B. Schaeffer chosen captain of Co. E, 7 Pa. cavalry, in the civil war.

Michael Schaeffer served in the war of 1812.

Capt. Schaeffer, chosen commander of the Penns Valley Cadets, in 1855.

John Adam Schaeffer, a 2nd lieut. in the war of the Revolution.

Nicholas Schaeffer, a private in the war of the Revolution.

Thus it will be seen the Schaeffers have made history for their families—civil and military—of which their descendants may well feel proud.

Time and space do not permit us to print in this issue of the Democrat the names of those attending the Re-union, hence will appear in our next issue.

Mrs. Adam Carter, nee Hazel, daughter of Michael, of Madisonburg, attended the Schaffer reunion, her first visit home in 21 years.

In the family of Michael Hazel, dec'd, of Madisonburg, there were eight children, and all these, six sons and two daughters, were present.

A Prediction.

"S. S. Blair, the veteran superintendent of the Tyrone division of the Pennsylvania railroad, with headquarters at Tyrone, is to be retired October 1, when he will have reached the age limit of 70 years. He is one of the best known railroad men east of the Alleghenies, and his acquaintance on the other side of the mountains is quite extensive. He has held his position since 1873. Mr. Blair was born in Esterton, Pa., in 1833, and entered the service of the Pennsylvania railroad at Harrisburg, June 11, 1853."—Tyrone Herald.

A prominent citizen has made the prediction that some important changes will follow the retirement of Mr. Blair, among them will be the double-tracking of the Bald Eagle Valley railroad and the running of through freights between Sunbury and Tyrone over the Lewisburg branch.

Blair may have been a good railroad man, but has the reputation of always showing a hostile spirit towards Belleville. As an instance, the little hencoop passenger station at Belleville was part of his station.

Very few courtesies or favors were ever shown this community through his department. We have no personal experience, but speak of the general complaint heard in years past. Hope the change will be a good one.

It is reported that Mr. Blair will be succeeded by C. P. MacArthur, now principal assistant engineer of the Buffalo division of the Buffalo and Allegheny Valley. Mr. MacArthur is a nephew of General MacArthur, as well as a nephew of S. M. Prevost, third vice president of the Pennsylvania railroad.

Jack Frost Around.

Frost Saturday morning at Julian, State College, Potter's Mills sharp; Eagleville very sharp; other parts of the county report about same.

A Lock Haven paper says: The mercury dropped during last night, 18th, to the 40 degree mark in this city. In Sugar valley and other highland districts there was a heavy frost this morning, but the fog that put in an appearance shortly before daylight prevented serious injury to vegetation.

In most localities heavy fogs set in early in the morning, thereby much harm was prevented.

New Service.

Please note the new method of reporting the general news on pages 2 and 3 of this issue. It is an editorial review.

HARNESSING WATERWAYS

A Gigantic Scheme to Develop Electrical Power.

CHEAPEST POWER KNOWN

Would Light Many Towns and Run Trolley Systems—Belleville May Utilize Water Power for the Same Purpose.

The Sunbury papers tell of a gigantic scheme to harness the Susquehanna river and to centralize the generating power of the electric light systems from Shamokin to Lock Haven.

Behind the project is the West Branch Electric company, incorporated under the laws of New Jersey, with a capital stock of \$3,000,000, and fathered by men of immense resources. While the scheme is gigantic in its proportions, yet it is claimed to be thoroughly practicable by those interested. At Sunbury a central electric light plant will be erected and its power will be supplied by the Susquehanna river. The new company has secured options on more than 20 electric light plants and systems and if the scheme is carried to a successful issue, the cost of electric lights will be materially decreased, as the cost of producing the current will be lessened by about 80 per cent. on account of the power to produce costing absolutely nothing.

The project was first talked about a little over a year ago and much color was given to the venture by the knowledge that engineers surveyed the Muncy dam and even selected a site for a power station.

The Williamsport News claims to have ascertained from a reliable source that five of the options held by the proposed company on electric light systems in the towns along the river will expire within a day or two. As a consequence, it is expected that something definite will be done before the week is over by the promoters of the enterprise.

There has been some hint that the Pennsylvania Railroad company is behind the venture.

NEW ELECTRIC STATION.

The Belleville Electric light company are considering the idea of renting the water power at McCoy's chain works for the purpose of generating additional electrical energy. The plant in town is now running at its full capacity, and this water power would enable them to supply a day current at very little expense, and at night would relieve the present plant of much of its overload.

It also would be a great relief to printers and other people who use small motive power. Since the Belleville Water Works has become a rat hole, where thousands of dollars are wasted in extravagant experiments and mismanagement, the water is being doled out by spoonfuls, at frightful rates, all the water motors in town would be abandoned as soon as there would be an assurance of securing electrical motors at reasonable rates. Of course the boro would lose this patronage, and the fellows at the works would have less to do—while drawing the same salaries.

If the McCoy plant is secured, an electrical station will be installed at that point by January 1st.

Large Pumpkin Stalk.

W. S. White, of Axe Mann, has the largest yield of pumpkins; it is a surprise to all who see the vine and pumpkins. The vine bears the entire lot, and an estimate has been made of the length of the vine, which measured 500 feet and has produced up to date 23 pumpkins weighing from two pounds up to 52 1/2 pounds, and has had 15 pumpkins that weighed not less than 35 pounds each, and upward to 52 1/2 pounds. This is no doubt the largest vine of the season, and has surprised many who witnessed the same. The stalk is of Volunteer variety stock and is a sweet pumpkin.

Benner-Miles.

Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Miles, near Martha was the scene of an important event, a wedding ceremony, pronounced by Rev. Lathrop, of Milesburg, which united their daughter Miss Margaret J. Miles in marriage with Geo. O. Benner, of Centre Hall. Only members of the immediate families were present. The couple are now in the eastern cities and will be at home after October 1st, at Centre Hall where they will occupy their own home near the Centre Hall station, where Mr. Benner for some years past has been successfully conducting a mercantile establishment.

Many a man's life hangs by a thread, but the condemned murderer's usually hangs by a rope.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

Autumn comes before autumn leaves. It doesn't improve a bad temper to lose it.

The man who knows it all can seldom prove it.

The moth can grow fat by merely eating holes.

Even a light sleeper prefers to sleep in the dark.

It is possible to be known by the company you don't keep.

A man is often born to command and a woman to countermand.

Some people waste all their strength patting themselves on the back.

You can't always judge a woman by her sighs, nor by her size either.

Lots of men get stoop shouldered from carrying around their self-conceit.

The reason some people get religion is because it doesn't cost them anything.

Some people are too proud to beg, too honest to steal, and too lazy to go to work.

It isn't until a man attends his own wedding that he fully realizes how insignificant he is.

A Sunbury man found a piece of bark in his bologna sausage recently. Now he is looking for the balance of the dog.

Bill Nye once went to a phrenologist to have his head examined. After running his hand over Bill's bumps the phrenologist hastily crossed the room and shut and locked the safe door. "That," said Nye, "showed a powerful foresight."

61st BIRTHDAY.

There are publications that are older, but the Pittsburg Post certainly has occasion to celebrate the 61st anniversary of its existence and usefulness. We always liked the Post because it is a clean, reliable publication, with plenty of enterprise to keep at the front rank and most of the time is setting the pace for its competitors. The editorial department is ably edited, and the news service is the best. That is why the paper is a success and generally pronounced the best in Pittsburg. It is free from political clan or factions and therefore is a useful publication.

Wettest Summer on Record.

The "good old summer time" of 1903 which closed, according to the popular opinion last Monday will go down in weather bureau history as the coldest and wettest on record. And for sudden and unexpected change the weather conditions, together with climate rarities and oddities, the months of June, July and August, this year will be long remembered. June and August were particularly cold and wet, July was with a few hot spells. During these months Dame Nature, false to her artistic temperament, developed an inclination to experiment and to attempt new things and trying to appease this apparently insatiable desire, juggled out all kinds and sorts of weather hitherto unknown even to men who make the study of climate a business.

That Monument.

Much dissatisfaction is expressed among old soldiers because so little has been done thus far towards the soldiers' monument. It is nine years since the death of Governor Curtin and probably over \$35,000 has been assured and nothing done. For this delay General Beaver is generally credited, and there is some merit in the criticism. Nine years more and only a mere handful of old soldiers will be left.

We believe that if General Beaver were aware of the sentiment of the community as well as the old soldiers, he would take a different course.

The State Game Laws.

Sportsmen would do well to clip the following summary of the game laws and paste it in their hats: The open season for game in the state is as follows: Elk, deer and fawn, 2 in one season, November only; Mongolian pheasant, Oct. 15 to Dec. 15; ruffed grouse, 10 in one day, Oct. 15 to Dec. 15; hare or rabbit, Nov. 1 to Dec. 15; reed birds, Sept. 1 to May 1; wild turkey, 2 in one day, Oct. 15 to Dec. 15; woodcock, Oct. 15 to Dec. 15; squirrel, gray, black and fox, Oct. 15 to Dec. 15; plover, July 15 to Jan. 1.

One Kiss, Six Lashes.

Alleging that W. Charles Buckmiller had stolen a kiss from her lips, Miss May Beacham, a handsome telephone operator in the Bell exchange at Lancaster, went to his home, accompanied by her father, and horsewhipped him, laying on six vigorous lashes. The affair has caused much talk. Buckmiller is a wealthy coal dealer and has a wife and family. Had he been a single man the punishment would have been quite different—telephone girls are no exception.