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NOVEMBER COURT NOTES

The Usual Grist Of Criminal Work.

LIST OF CASES ON TRIAL

Verdicts Rendered—Sentences Imposed—Civil List Cases Either Settled, Tried or Continued—Grand Jury Discharged on Wednesday.

(Reported by S. D. Gettig, Esq.)

November sessions of court convened on Monday morning at half past nine and considerable time was taken up in hearing motions and petitions. The grand jury was called and sworn and W. R. Jenkins, of Bellefonte, chosen foreman and charged as to their duty as to the indictments that may be laid before them to be passed upon, after which the constables made their quarterly returns, and list of traverse jurors called and absences noted.

The list of civil cases for this week was then called over and the following cases disposed of:

Peter Mendis vs. L. C. Bullock, appeal. Continued at costs of defendant.

Sarah C. Geiss vs. Luther Royer, appeal. Settled.

Executors of J. D. Shugert, late of Bellefonte, deceased, vs. Lewis Rosenthal, appeal. Continued by agreement of counsel on account of sickness of a witness.

J. H. Lingle vs. Lewis Rosenthal, appeal. Continued by agreement of counsel on account of illness of a witness.

E. L. Stover vs. John A. Miller, appeal. Settled.

Robert Kinkead vs. H. McD. Loraine, appeal. Settled.

Frank McCartney and Earl Midlam the two boys who were convicted at last term of court for larceny were called before the bar and after a good and wholesome talk by the court sentence was suspended.

At the afternoon session additional motions and petition were heard, after which the following cases were heard:

Samuel T. Dixon vs. overseers of the poor of Snow Shoe township, being an appeal from decision of a justice of the peace; the case is brought to recover for coffin and burial expenses of a daughter of a Mrs. Sarvey in the early part of 1899 by the plaintiff, who is an undertaker at Snow Shoe, after being unable to get his pay from the parties, procured an order of approval, which he served on the poor department of the township, the plaintiff having received ten dollars on account from Mrs. Sarvey. The overseers declined to pay the balance, alleging that there was property there, and again that the plaintiff had waited too long. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for twenty-five dollars.

George Symmonds, indicted for betrayal, prosecutrix Carrie Miller. This case is from Bellefonte. The defendant pleaded guilty and the usual sentence in such cases was imposed.

John Edward Hampton, indicted for betrayal; prosecutrix Lillie Brown. This case is from Spring township, and the defendant pleaded guilty and the usual sentence imposed.

Perry John Smith vs. John Q. A. Kennedy and Adda Kennedy, appeal; an action to recover an alleged balance for work done by plaintiff, and different members of his family for the defendants on their farm in Potter township in 1901 and beginning of the year of 1902. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$118.81.

Edmund Blanchard was appointed Auditor in the estate of William Masden, deceased.

Dominic Constance, indicted first count assault and battery, second count aggravated assault and battery, the third count being ignored by the grand jury; prosecutor David Rothrock. This case is from Benner township, and is the same case, where the defendant an Italian went to the house of the prosecutor on Sunday afternoon Sept. 27, 1903, where he had been getting milk and other produce and, according to prosecution on the afternoon above named the prosecutor's family were at church excepting the prosecutor and a son, and as the prosecutor was coming towards the house about 3 o'clock from the pig sty he saw the defendant at the door with his left hand on the door knob and the right hand in his pocket, and when seeing the prosecutor said something about a certain member of the family and was ordered away by the prosecutor, whereupon the defendant fired two shots at the prosecutor. The sheriff was summoned and arrested the defendant near the residence of the prosecutor and nearby in the grass found the revolver with every chamber filled. The defendant denied the shooting. Verdict, guilty on the first count and sentenced to pay costs of prosecution, fifty dollars fine and five months in the county jail.

C. Y. Wagner vs. A. J. Lindsay, appeal. Settled.

George Mock and Robert H. Moore, trading as The Phillipsburg Beet Co., vs. Jacob Test, appeal. Settled.

Calvin Henry, indicted, first count incestuous fornication, second count incestuous adultery; prosecutrix Susan Henry. This case is from Miles township and the prosecutrix is aged about eighteen years and is one of seven children, and the circumstances as detailed by the prosecutrix are unfit for publication and show the depravity human nature can stoop to, and that in a civilized community. The defendant denied the heinous charge and alleged that he always aimed to have the prosecutrix to lead an upright and chaste life. Verdict on Wednesday morning of guilty and the defendant at once made a motion for arrest of judgment and a new trial reasons to be filed within twenty days.

Joseph Schmitzko, indicted for assault and battery, prosecutrix George Bucher. This case is from Snow Shoe township, near Clarence and the parties are Slavish and William Kloski was sworn as interpreter. It appears that these parties had some trouble about the second day of November of the present year. Verdict not guilty and the costs divided equally between the prosecutor and the defendant.

Charles Hartsock, indicted for assault and battery, prosecutrix Susan Rossman. This case is from Spring township. It appears that on Sept. 12, last, there was some trouble between some boys at Coleville and, according to the Commonwealth's allegation, the defendant, the father of one of the boys appeared and urged his boy to fight one of the boys of the prosecutrix and then struck one of her boys with a tobacco pipe filled with sand or gravel, and the defendants allegations being that he took his boy away and in throwing this pipe of sand away accidentally struck the boy of the prosecutrix. Verdict Wednesday afternoon of not guilty and the prosecutrix to pay one third of the costs and defendant two thirds of the costs.

Com. vs. William Watkins, Austin Watkins and John Mills, indicted for larceny, prosecutrix William P. Powell. This case is from Boggs township and is for the taking of coal hearth. The Eagle Iron works having had wood leave from the prosecutor, which was being coaled by William Watkins and on the 31st of October last the defendants took away some of the wood which had not coaled under a claim of right. Verdict not guilty and the prosecutrix to pay the costs.

George Spangler, indicted for selling liquor without a license, prosecutrix Wesley Heverly. This case is from Liberty township; after hearing some of Commonwealth's evidence, defendant changed his plea from that of not guilty to guilty.

The Grand Jury was discharged Wednesday noon after making a report that they had passed in twenty two bill of indictment, sixteen of which were found as true bills and eight ignored and further reported that they visited the public buildings and found the same to be clean and in good condition and recommended that the rooms in the sheriff's residence on the north side of the second floor be repapered and placed in a more presentable condition.

Traverse jurors discharged Wednesday afternoon at three o'clock and court adjourned to Thursday morning at nine o'clock.

Narrowly Escaped Cremation.

Last week a party of hunters from Indiana county went into the Allegheny mountains from Moshannon, Centre county, and camped along Baugher Run. Saturday night 12 o'clock, while all were asleep, the cabin they were in caught fire. They had no time to spare as the flames were upon them and they only escaped with their lives. Two of the men had their hands badly burned while one man's hair was on fire. They lost all their wearing apparel together with considerable money. They escaped with just their night clothes on and were given shelter at S. S. Craft's camp, which was only a short distance away. Here the unfortunate gentlemen received what clothing could be spared, and in the morning fared sumptuously at Mr. Craft's breakfast table. They are poor men and their loss will be severely felt.

Engine Chases a Big Deer.

Last Friday evening while the work train on the P. & E. railroad was coming east between Ferney and Parrandsville Engineer E. J. Israel saw a big deer bounding along on the tracks in front of the locomotive. The big buck ran ahead of the engine for about 500 yards and then left the tracks. Jumping over a wire fence the deer stood for a few seconds looking at the train speeding by and then bounded away up the side of the mountain.

Twenty-seven deer have been killed in the vicinity of Phillipsburg, this season.

Men's all solid working shoes every pair guaranteed, \$1.50. Yeager & Davis.

A DESPERATE CRIME

Telegraph Operator Killed and Robbed at Oak Grove.

A HEROIC FIGHT FOR LIFE

Was Alone in a Railroad Tower—Shot Twice and Skull Crushed—Dying Man's Unfinished Message—Murderer Not Known.

A dastardly murder was committed last Thursday evening, in a lonely railroad telegraph office tower, two miles east of Youngdale, on the New York Central railroad. The victim was William H. Clendennen, a telegraph operator, who was on duty in the tower at the time, which is situated just west of the New York Central bridge, which crosses the Susquehanna river and the P. and E. road.

"I AM SHOT AND DYING"

The first intimation of the terrible crime was contained in an uncompleted message received by Train Dispatcher Harry Clay, in the office at Jersey Shore Junction. The pathetic and sensational message was as follows: "I am shot and dying, Tr—." The last letters were so indistinct that Dispatcher Clay could not understand them. Dispatcher Clay acted promptly; he at once ordered employees of the railroad to proceed to the tower with all possible haste to make an investigation.

TRACK WALKER SEES MURDERER.

Track Walker William Cable was on the cross-over bridge, near the centre, on his way to Oak Grove, when he heard the report of two shots coming from the tower and hurriedly retraced his steps toward the tower. Just as he neared the steps which lead up to the office a man bounded down, and ran up the track in the direction of McElhattan. In the darkness Mr. Cable was unable to get a good look at him, except the mere outline of his form. He believes, however, that the fellow wore a light moustache.

AN AWFUL SCENE.

Mr. Cable quickly mounted the steps and entered the open door of the little telegraph room, and the scene which met his gaze was one that struck him with horror, and which beggars description. Operator Clendennen was lying on the floor dead, in a large pool of blood, which flowed from his head, the entire back of which had been crushed in with a powerful blow from a heavy spike maul, which was lying on the floor covered with blood; and with particles of hair adhering to it. A mop handle, which the brave Clendennen had evidently used to defend himself in the absence of anything better, was broken and twisted into pieces and small splinters. The cloth, fastened to the end of the stick, was torn and had been swished about the little room, all of which was evidence that a terrible struggle had taken place before Clendennen succumbed.

SEARCHING FOR THE MURDERER.

Track Walker Cable left the place to give the alarm and before long the nearest residents arrived, as well as the men who had been sent out from the Junction. The men armed themselves and began a search for the murderer between the tower and McElhattan.

Officers in adjoining towns were early apprised of the heinous crime and kept a sharp lookout along the railroad tracks the greater portion of the night for suspicious characters.

CORONER SHOWMAKER ON THE SCENE.

Coroner W. J. Shoemaker, of Lock Haven, received notification of the commission of the crime and in company with Dr. J. H. Hayes, hurried to the scene. They entered the tower and found the body of the young operator as above described. They made a post mortem examination of the body in the little tower. They found that the back and left side of the head had been crushed in by the maul, the bones of the left arm shattered above the elbow by a 32-calibre ball, and a bullet hole in the back on the left side of the spine.

The young man's empty pocket book was found on the floor; his watch chain was dangling from his vest, and his fine gold watch was gone as were also a number of rings from his fingers. In his pocket were found \$1.21 in change.

The railroad officials furnished an engine and car, on which the men were sent to Brown's tower, after the receipt of the strange message. The company has also its entire detective force at work on the case in the hope of apprehending the real murderer.

ROBBERY THE MOTIVE.

From all the circumstances surrounding the shocking tragedy, it is believed the murderer only intended to rob young Clendennen, who received two months' pay on Tuesday last, and who generally carried a considerable sum of money

about his person, according to the statement of friends. The two shots, in the judgment of the coroner, were fired at close range, as the powder marks were discernible on the clothing and skin about the wounds. Finding himself mortally wounded, the heroic young operator is then believed to have crawled to his ticker and was in the act of sending the fateful message, when the black-hearted murderer in order to make his dastardly work doubly sure, dealt the dying man a powerful blow with the heavy maul, secured his money and valuables and made his escape.

The body of the young man was taken to the home of his uncle, B. C. Young, at Youngdale, where it was prepared for burial. The interior of the tower presented a sickening scene, and bore evidence that a terrific struggle had taken place before the young man gave up his life. He was aged 31 years and was a young man of powerful build. He made his home with his grandmother, Mrs. Sarah Clendennen, who resides about a mile and a half east of Youngdale.

TRACING CLENDENNEN'S SLAYER.

Up to the present moment the murderer of W. H. Clendennen, the operator at Brown's tower, on Thursday evening, and the robber who bound and gagged Murrel Hafer, another operator, at Allenwood, early Friday morning, has succeeded in escaping the army of detectives and railroaders who have been on the watch for him since the commission of the crimes.

Following the action of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company in offering a reward for the arrest of the man who was at the Allenwood tower, the New York Central has offered \$500 for information that will lead to the arrest of the murderer of Clendennen.

One of the detectives gave it as his opinion that the murder was committed by Edward Troinkle, the man who several months ago murdered Mrs. William Payne in Tioga county by thrusting the tines of a pitchfork into her body. He says Clendennen was acquainted with Troinkle, who has been at large since he killed Mrs. Payne in Tioga county, and the detective's theory is that on Thursday night Troinkle entered the tower at Brown's, and after requesting a loan of money and being refused, demanded it at the point of a revolver. A fight ensued, he thinks, during which Troinkle is believed to have shot his victim as he was sending the news over the wire. This theory has for its basis the fact that the telegram which Clendennen sent to the dispatcher at Jersey Shore read, "Shot by Tr—" and then the message ended. The description given of the criminal answers that of Troinkle.

WILLIAM MITCHELLTREE RELEASED.

William Mitchelltree, was arrested by Constable Ellis Myers, at the Clendennen funeral Sunday, but was released from jail Monday night by direction of District Attorney McCormick and Constable Myers, without even going to the trouble of having a writ of habeas corpus issued and argued, as there was no evidence against him.

The discharge of Mitchelltree leaves the case as it was in the beginning with no new developments, except the arrest here and there of suspected tramps, which may continue indefinitely by amateur detectives and city police officers in the hope of stumbling on the \$500 reward offered.

Chief of Detectives Humphrey, who is in charge of the case for the New York Central Railroad company, says his force is kept busy running down all sorts of rumors. They are determined to make every effort to secure the murderer of Clendennen, and for that reason are following up everything in the hope that even the smallest and most unpromising rumor or clue might be the one to put them eventually upon the right scent.

DYNAMITE CLEARFIELD STATION.

Friday there was a holdup of the operator at the Pennsylvania Railroad depot Clearfield and the dynamiting of the safe. There were two burglars, and while one kept watch over W. B. Fletcher, the operator in the tower, the other worked in the safe in the ticket office. The men were heavily masked and appeared in the tower before the operator was aware of their presence. He was jerked from his chair and taken to one corner of the room, where one man kept him prisoner. Before the other burglar started for the ticket office the wires were thrown open so that no word could be sent along the line. The safe was dynamited, but the inner door refused to open. The explosion shook the buildings in the neighborhood and the burglars fled. Mr. Fletcher's home is at Howard, Pa.

Mistaken for a Deer and Killed.

Dr. Robert H. Milnor, of Warrensville, shot and killed Henry Anthony Plank, also of Warrensville, Tuesday morning, mistaking him for a deer. Plank was hunting alone. Dr. Milnor is a brother of the sheriff of Lycoming county.

OUR HISTORICAL REVIEW

Another Thrilling Episode From Pioneer Life.

CAPTIVES BECOME SAVAGES.

Life Among the Indians Produced Some Remarkable Changes—Did Not Care to Return to Relatives and Friends.

(The following having its location in territory that once was linked with our own county of Centre, we can claim for it a place in the Democrat's Historical Review—it is a thrilling companion piece in early settlers' life, to the story of the capture of Regina Hartman printed in our issues of last week and the week previous.)

It should be born in mind that many of the so-called savages who wrought death and destruction all along the frontiers were incited by whites. During the French and Indian war they were subsidized by the British Government.

When General Bouquet in 1764 completely subjugated the Western tribes and compelled them to deliver, on the banks of the Muskingum in Ohio, all the incidents took place, as narrated in a previous paper. By the terms of the treaty all the whites, even though wives of Indians, had to be surrendered. There were scenes of indescribable joy on the one hand, especially when soldiers met their wives and children among the captives, there were also scenes of deepest grief and sorrow. Some of the white women had married among their captors, and with true womanly grace considered their marriage relations with their dusky companions just as sacred as though performed at the family altar of the parental home by the family pastor. Besides this they bore genuine love for their husbands, fathers of their children. These children were just as dear to them as though their fathers were of their own race. The terms of the treaty as laid down by Bouquet were inexorable and the Indians well knew that their racial welfare depended on a faithful compliance with the same when the Indians brought to the camp their captives some of the women absolutely refused to be taken back to their kindred.

Elizabeth Studebaker, a German woman who had been captured many years before, and Rhoda Boyd, managed to escape from the convoy while on its way to Fort Pitt, and hastened back to their dusky friends on the Muskingum. The case of Mary Jamison was a peculiarly sad one. She was the presumable daughter of John Jamison, who had located in the present limits of Bedford county prior to 1750. She was captured by the Indians during the French and Indian war, and hence had been many years among them. It is evident, that she was an attractive and energetic woman, and, unlike Annie Le Roy and Barbara Leininger, she made no attempt at escape but resigned herself to her fate.

She was wooed and won by a dusky brave, who seems to have been a worthy husband, the fruits of the union was a number of children. Under the stern requirements of the Bouquet treaty her husband brought her and the children to the Forks of the Muskingum to be surrendered. Restoration to her kindred and people, with all the amenities and comforts of civilization, was held out to Mary Jamison. On the other hand, was her disconsolate husband, whom she dearly loved. Had he not been kind and good? Was he not the father of her children that clung to her? How could she forsake him? Her mind was soon made up, and in a way quite creditable to her sex. She chose to remain with her husband and friends and, with her children, hid herself until the army withdrew.

SUSAN WIREBACH'S CASE.

We now come to several cases much more recent, and the details of which are like an open book. The first of these is Susan Wirebach, the daughter of John Wirebach. Among the first settlers on Penn's Creek, in Buffalo Valley, in now Union county, was John Wirebach and his wife Catharine. They lived somewhat isolated from the settlement, and often made narrow escapes from massacre by the Indians. During the worst period of the Revolution they had, with many others, gone down to the Susquehanna, beyond the danger line. After their return to the valley they learned, when too late, that their supposed security was a delusion and a snare.

In the autumn of 1781 their daughter Susan, a bright buxom lass, just budding into womanhood, had occasion to go some distance from home on an errand. Just at this time a band of hostiles, who had committed depredations down the valley, were moving rapidly toward the mountain to escape the ire of the settlers, who always gathered quickly and gave hot pursuit against invading foes. Unfortunately for Miss Wirebach she was met

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FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

THE FALLEN LEAF.

A leaf has fallen! Well, who cares!
The branch on which it grew
May feel the little loss it bears
And mourns a day or two;
But shall the busy world forget
To hurry on its way
Because a leaf lies on the sod?
Another, by the grace of God
Will deck the branch some day.
A breeze is passing, and I hear
Some mourner's bitter cry;
But men forget ere yet the tear
Upon her cheek is dry!
The busy world goes rushing in
The old, old-fashioned way—
No matter what his work or where,
Some other man has risen there
And fills his place to-day.
—Chicago Record Herald.

The bow-legged man is seldom a beau. Ignorance seldom realizes its own blissfulness.

You can't throw mud without soiling your hands.

It's an ill wind that blows an umbrella inside out.

The chiropodist always has his business in toe.

A woman never asks if her complexion is on the straight.

The hardest kind of debt to collect is one of gratitude.

The watchmaker is not the only man who lives on tick.

Angels without wings are the best. They are not so fly.

It is better to be half-cracked than to be altogether broke.

The girl with dreamy eyes may still be very wide awake.

Dumb luck is often the result of keeping one's mouth shut.

The real beauty about a looking-glass is that it never flatters.

It is hard to be absolutely truthful and popular at the same time.

There is just as much worry over money as over the lack of it.

Every man is apt to hug a delusion, especially if it wears petticoats.

One man duns another simply to prevent himself from being done.

A bride can be self-possessed even when she is being given away.

When a woman keeps a secret it's time to send her to a sanitarium.

Experience is something that teaches us how unwise other people are.

When some people can't pay their rent they think it is time to get a move on.

It's all right to take things as they come, if they don't belong to someone else.

When a woman thinks she has the best husband in the world it is because she doesn't know any better.

The divorced wife of a millionaire advises girls not to marry a man of millions, and it seems she's struck a nappy chord in the heart of girls. None of them are marrying men worth over a quarter million, and from that down to thirty cents.

A Personal Question.

Joseph Jefferson, the actor, tells a story of an election in Colorado, where the women vote on the school question, and everything else.

A lady came to the place of registration one morning to qualify herself for suffrage at the coming election.

"What was your political party do you affiliate?" asked the clerk, solemnly.

The lady blushed, started and was evidently much embarrassed. "Must I answer?" she asked.

"Yes, madam," said the clerk; you must answer if you would vote."

"Well," she replied, "I don't think I'll vote, then, for it is nobody's business what the party's name is, as is a candidate for school trustee, and is one of the nicest men I ever met."

Badly Injured.

Friday evening about 5:30 o'clock Clayton Hall, a brakeman on the Snow Shoe train, was on top of a box car at the round house in Bellefonte, and trying to apply the brake when the ratchet broke and he fell onto the railroad track between the rails, three cars and the engine passing over him. He was conveyed to the Bellefonte Hospital at once. An examination showed that he had sustained quite serious injuries. His right foot was crushed above the ankle and the toes on the left foot were crushed and the little toe cut off. He was also badly bruised about the head and body. The limb was not amputated, as the bone was wired and it is thought it will heal nicely. His condition is considered favorable.

The unfortunate man is about 22 years of age, married and resides at Snow Shoe. He is a son of John Hall, of Milesburg, who is flagman on the Central Railroad of Pennsylvania.

Sheriff Shearer's family is quite large. He reports 19 prisoners in the Lock Haven jail many more than usual.